BAMBOO COMICS WIN SELECTION

presented by KUZUSHIRO
くずしろ

姫のためなら死ねる 1

kimino tamenara shineru

TAKE SHOBO

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姫(きみ)の ためなら 死ねる 1

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for you, my lady, I would lay down my life

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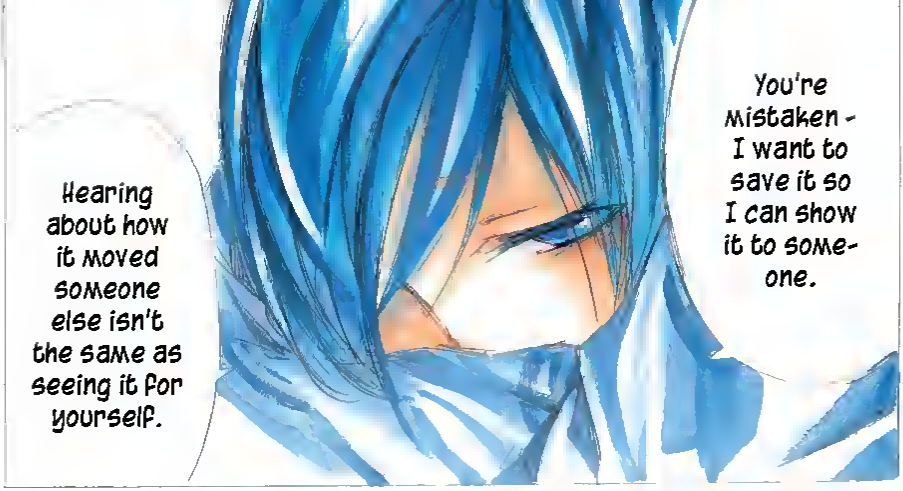
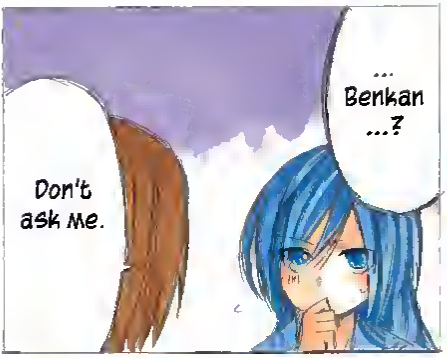
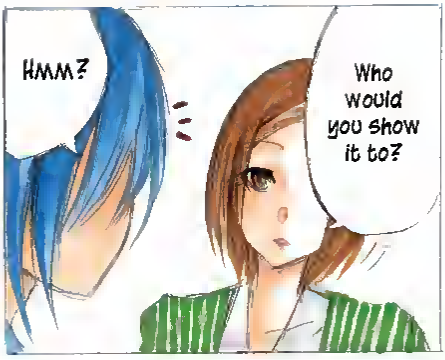
chapter 0

What a beautiful sky.
I'd like to cut it out.
Wouldn't that rob it of its charm?
I wish I could cut it out and save it...
If you saved it, that momentary thrill would fade.
I'm not looking for an adult opinion on it!

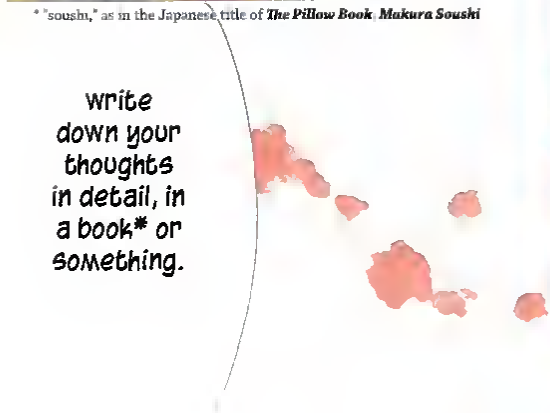

Hearing about how it moved someone else isn't the same as seeing it for yourself.
You're mistaken - I want to save it so I can show it to someone.



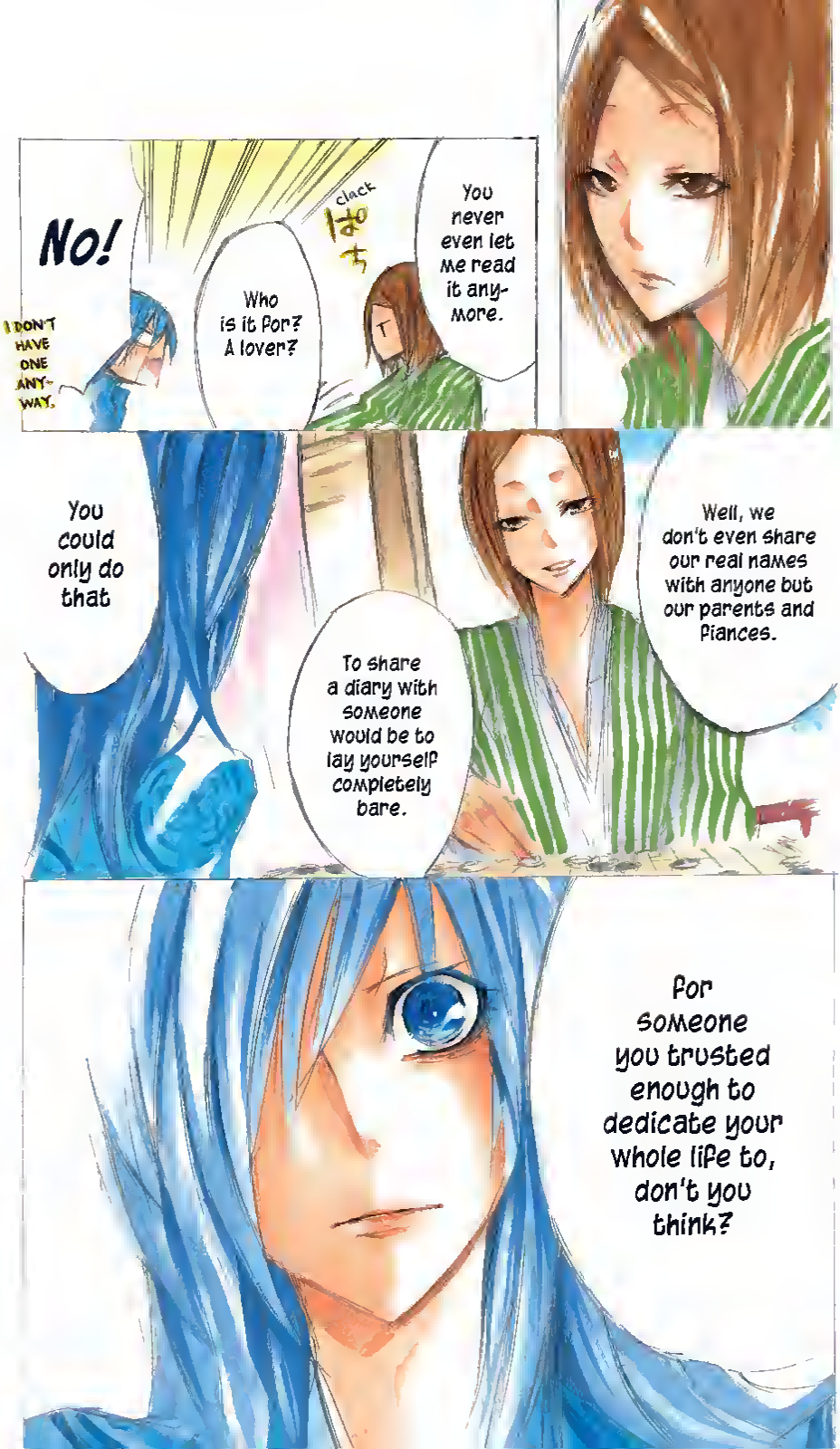


Well, in that case,
My feelings will fade and be forgotten before I can tell you about them.
But you go out all the time now, Benkan.

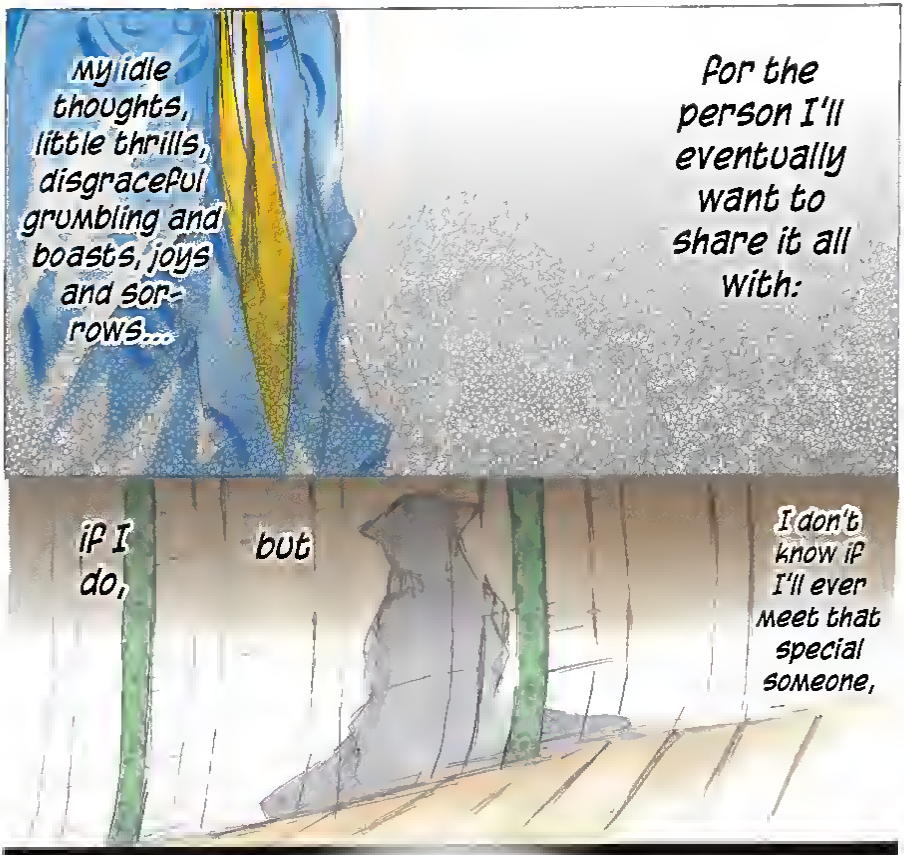
* "soushi," as in the Japanese title of ***The Pillow Book***, ***Makura Soushi***

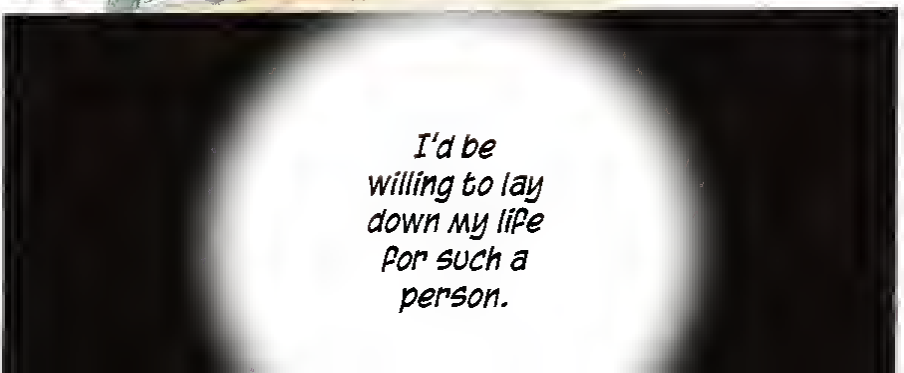


I began keeping a diary.
That was when
Writing what?
click
Oh, are you still writing, by the way?
Oh... well, yes.
click
That diary.
I need to write it down so that I can show it to someone.

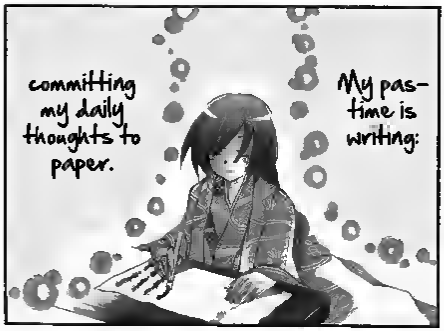

No!
I DON'T HAVE ONE ANY-WAY.
Who is it for? A lover?
clack
You never even let me read it any-more.
You could only do that
To share a diary with someone would be to lay yourself completely bare.
Well, we don't even share our real names with anyone but our parents and fiances.
For someone you trusted enough to dedicate your whole life to, don't you think?

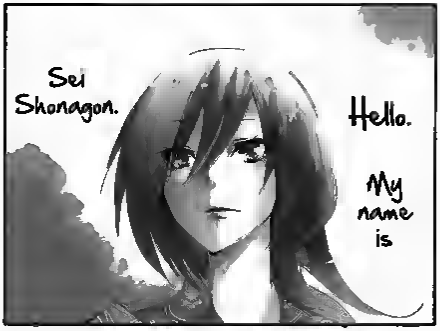
I must be writing this
Oh... I see now.

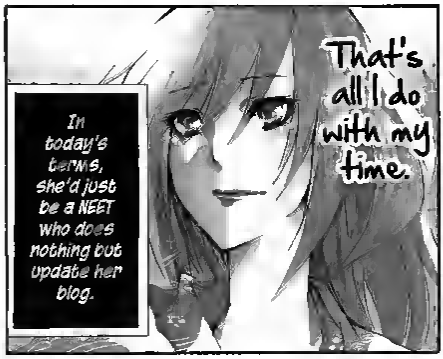

my idle thoughts, little thrills, disgraceful grumbling and boasts, joys and sorrows...
for the person I'll eventually want to share it all with:
if I do,
but
I don't know if I'll ever meet that special someone,


I'd be willing to lay down my life for such a person.

Sei Shonagon



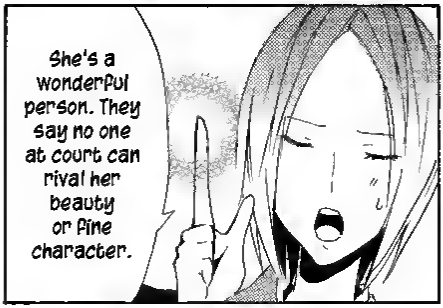


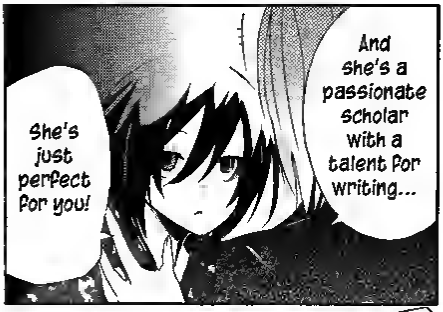


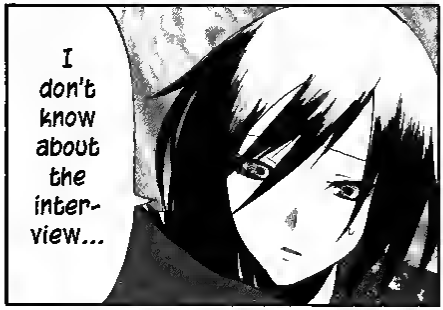
because she's mid-ranking nobility
thoughtless
Huh?!
Do you have any interest in becoming a lady-in-waiting at court?
Ben-kan...
Why don't you get a job?
No! I couldn't possi-bly!
shake ふん
Why not?
shake ふん
You're educated. You should go out into the world
This is one of my few friends.
to enter that elegant, noble world?!
You expect a recluse like me
ぺか shine... ぁー...
Perhaps it's because she's older than me that she feels the need to nag me like a mother. It can get annoying ..
There
instead of lazing around all day.
What exactly do you think is in there?
FROM THE BRIGHT-NESS!!
I would go blind!!
Oww! That hurts !
ギリギリ
You're saying that out loud. I can hear you.

nobody like that could really exist

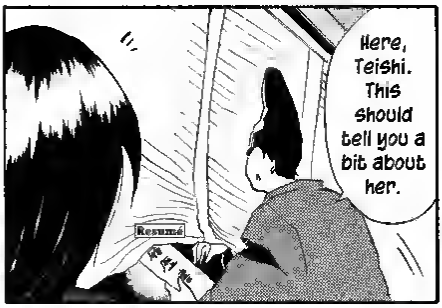
Like a student living alone

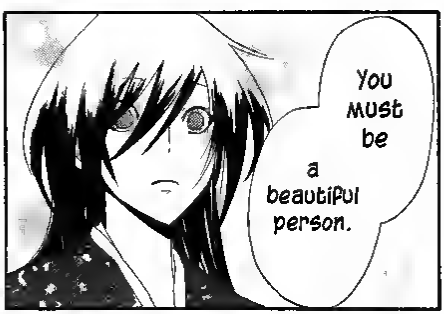




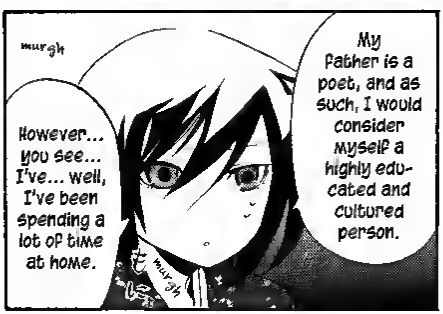


nope

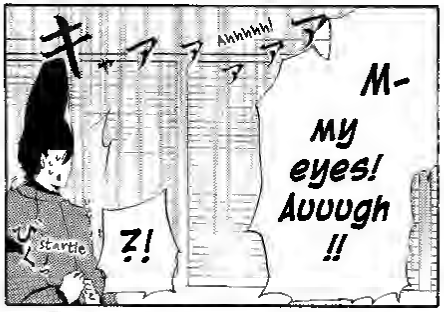




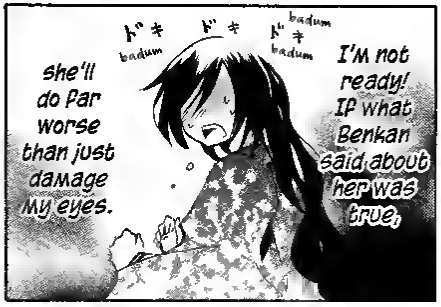
the interview

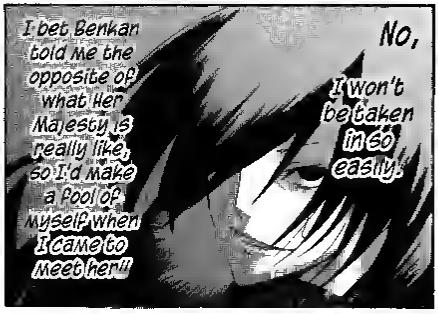

murgh
However... you see... I've... well, I've been spending a lot of time at home.
My father is a poet, and as such, I would consider myself a highly educated and cultured person.
murgh

powerful enough to break the laws of nature

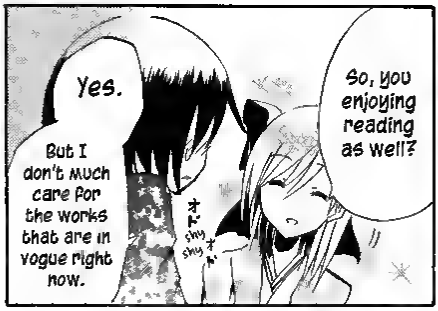


calm down

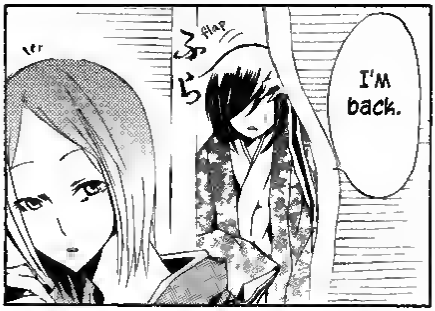


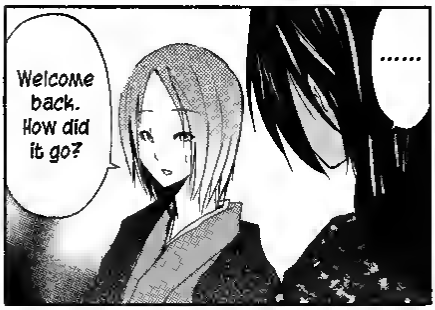

I bet Benkan told me the opposite of what Her Majesty is really like, so I'd make a fool of myself when I came to meet her!!
No, I won't be taken in so easily.

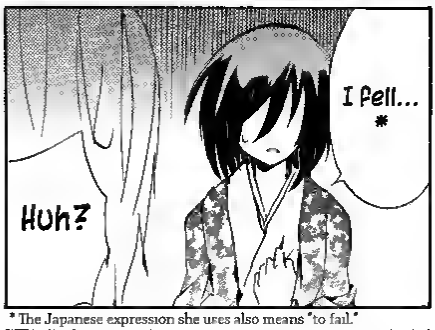
In her heart



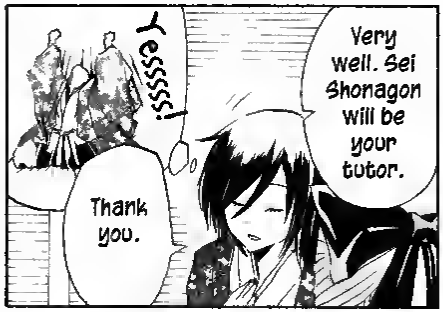
Empress Teishi



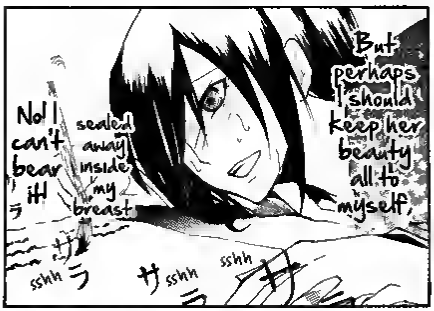


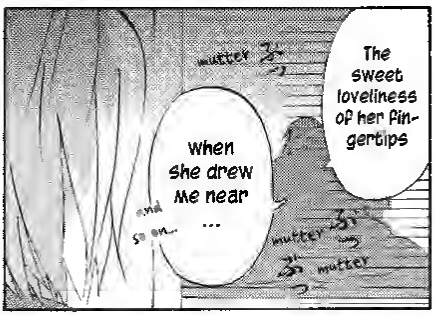


* The Japanese expression she uses also means "to fall."

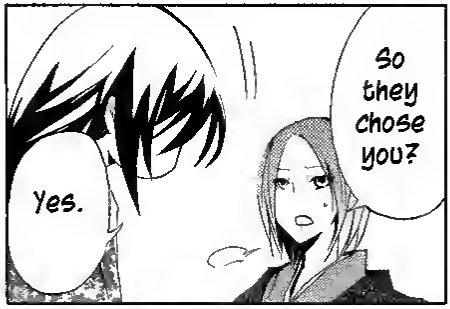


her majesty today

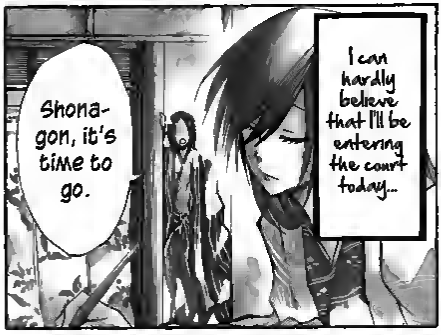


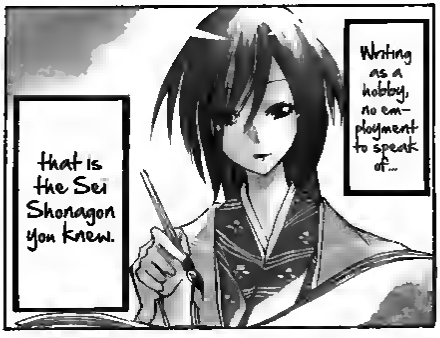


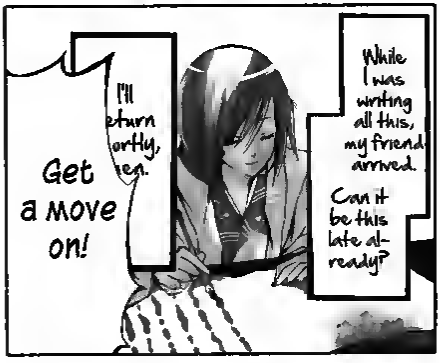
shonagon's offer

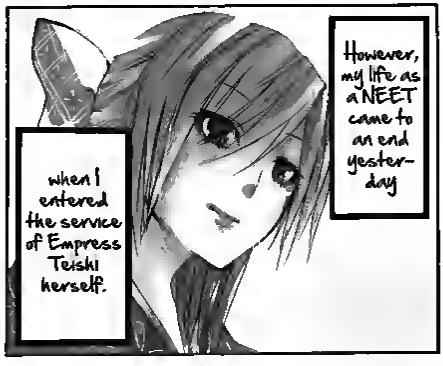


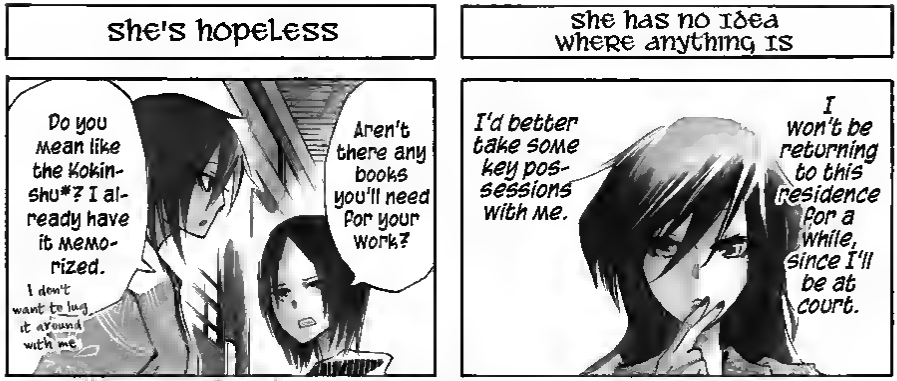
What Sei Shonagon Is Really Like



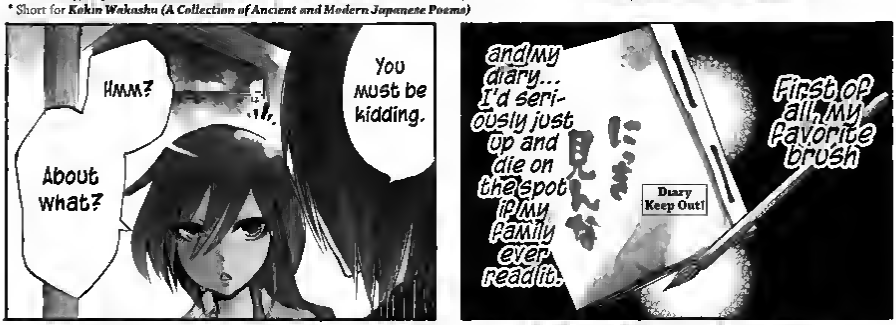




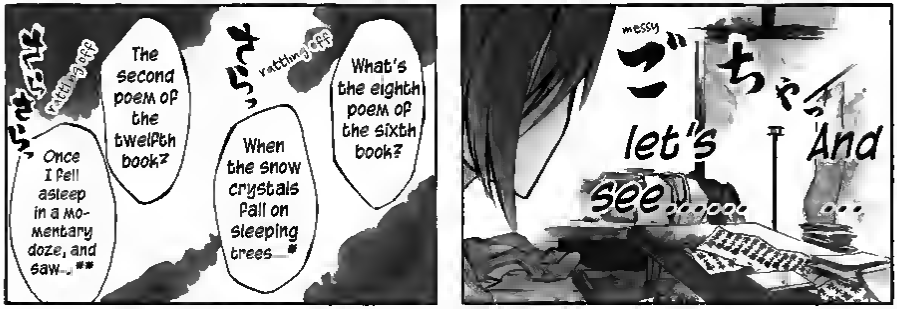



she's hopeless
she has no idea where anything is
Do you mean like the Kokinshu*? I already have it memorized.
I don't want to lug it around with me.
Aren't there any books you'll need for your work?
I'd better take some key possessions with me.
I won't be returning to this residence for a while, since I'll be at court.

* Short for ***Kokin Wakashu (A Collection of Ancient and Modern Japanese Poems)***


You must be kidding.
Hmm?
About what?
First of all, my favorite brush
Diary Keep Out!
and my diary... I'd seriously just up and die on the spot if my family ever read it.

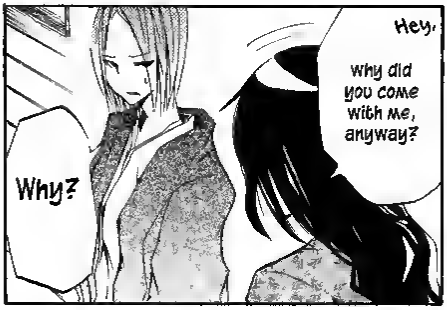
* By Ki no Tsurayuki Translated by Laurel Rasplica Rodd and Mary Catherine Henkenius in ***Kokinshu: A Collection of Poems Ancient and Modern***

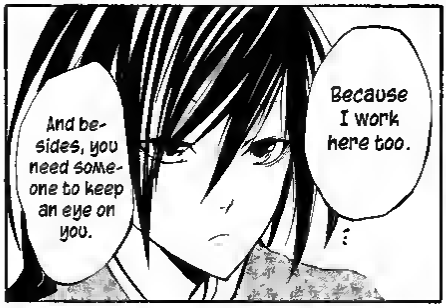

The second poem of the twelfth book?
rattling off
What's the eighth poem of the sixth book?
Once I fell asleep in a momentary doze, and saw...**
When the snow crystals fall on sleeping trees...*
messy
let's see.....
And

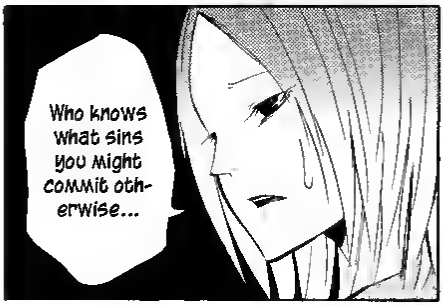
** By Ono no Komachi Translated by Edwin A. Cranston in ***A Waka Anthology, Volume 2: Grasses of Remembrance***

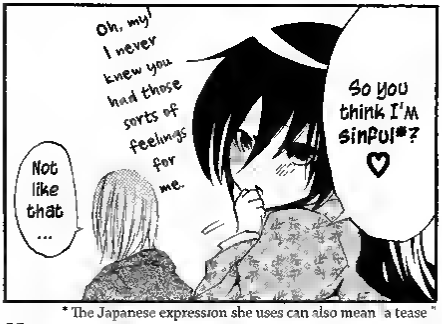
a genius, or is she completely hopeless?
Is this woman
What--nand--ing you have." But don't think my writing is really that
Oh, and the first words Her Majesty spoke to me were
It turns out I don't have many prized possessions.
Your brush and diary are all you're bringing with you?!

dream on







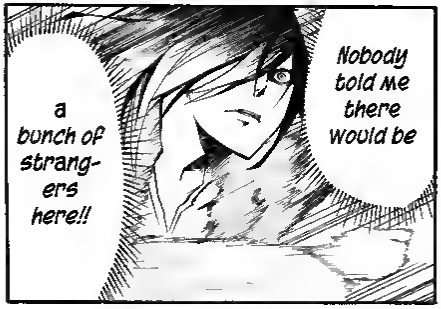


* The Japanese expression she uses can also mean "a tease"

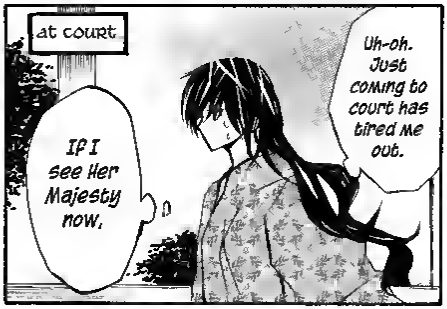
not a chance

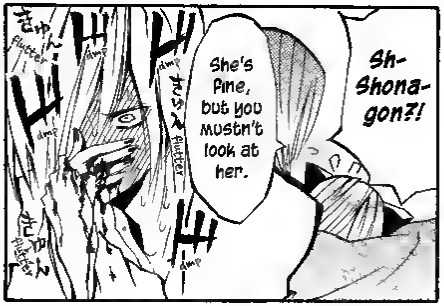
Hmm...
But she's an Empress.
I'm sure she must have been studying Japanese poetry and Chinese classics for years...
You have a point there.

Because she's a recluse and a neet

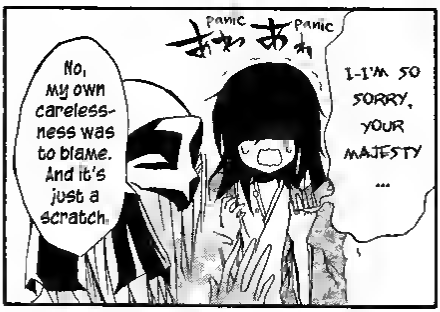


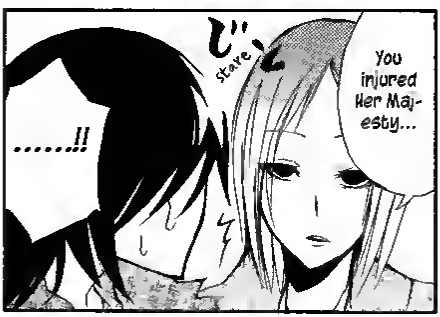
Her mind went blank

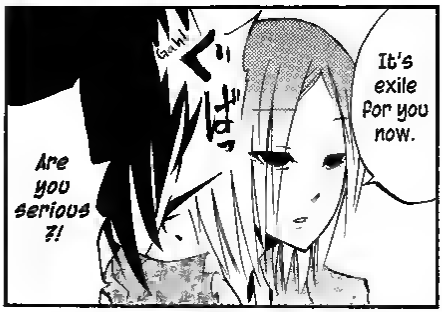




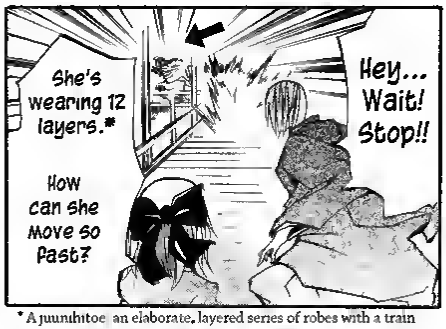
that bad







It was probably the power of love

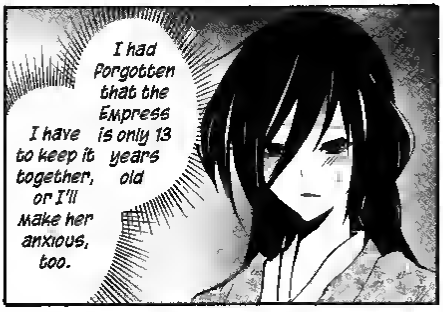


*A juunihitoe: an elaborate, layered series of robes with a train

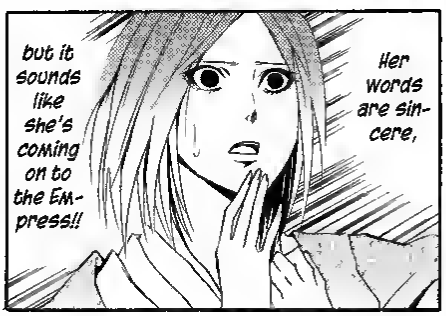
What did she say?!
Really
Um...
are you forcing yourself to do this, Sei Shonagon?
Please raise your head.
Sei Shonagon, please don't worry. It's all right.
...Hmm?
Please be honest with me. Is being my tutor
Your Majesty...
You're going to make me sad too if you keep that up.
not...
to your liking ...?
13 years old
27 years old
She's already lost it.
I can't take this I'M going to lose it.
My heart is pounding, but I feel so guilty, too.
M-
But she's so cute when she cries. So cute.
I made her cry I made her cry!
you rascal.
She's more than a decade younger than you.

a haiku from michitaka

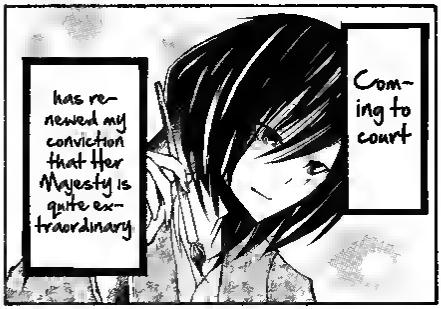
what did she say?!

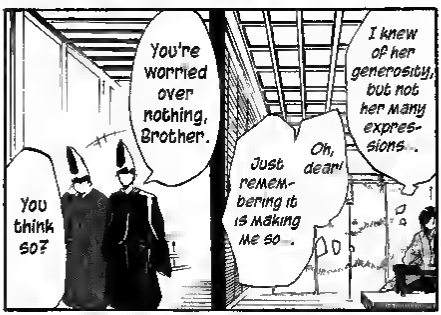


Serving an august personage such as yourself is like a dream come true for a lowly person like me.
What fault could I possibly find with it?
!

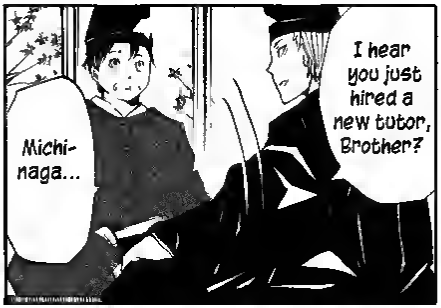


her majesty today 2

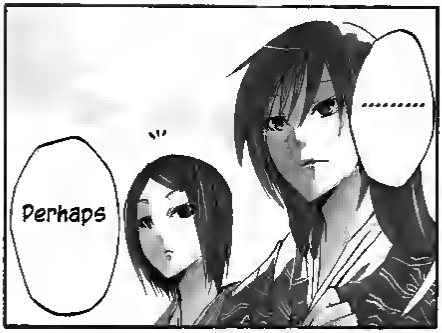


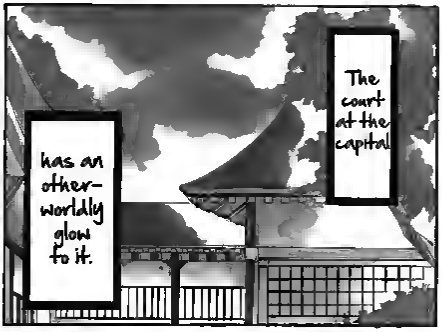

You're worried over nothing, Brother.
You think so?
Oh, dear!
Just remembering it is making me so—
I knew of her generosity, but not her many expressions...

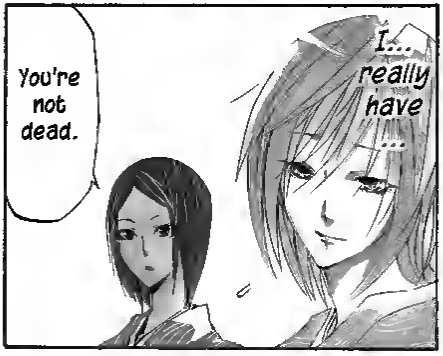
a father's lament

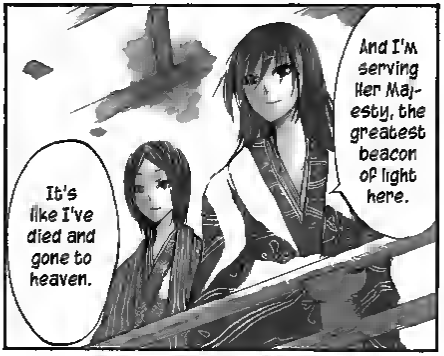


take a look at reality

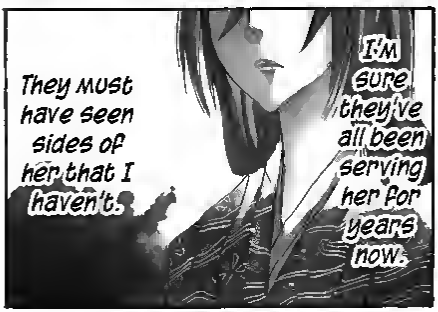


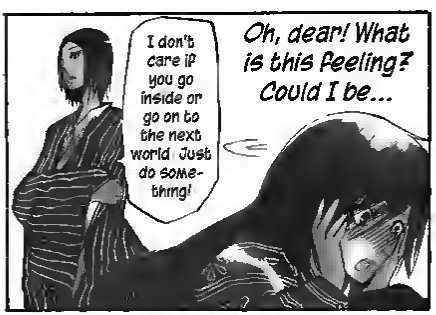




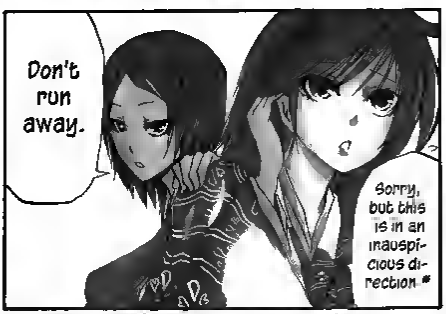


the second time





there might be demons

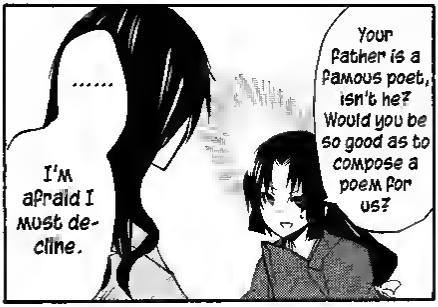


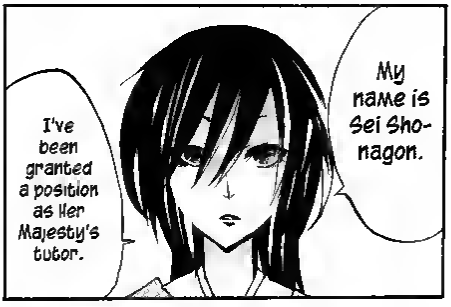
* "Inauspicious Direction" this s a reference to one of the highly ritual aspects of court life Certain directions were considered unlucky on certain days forcing the Emperor and his court to walk in a different direction to get to a particular location.

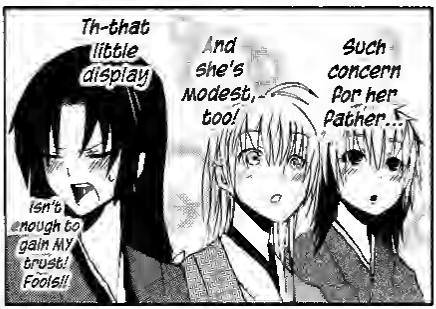
already regretting it
don't do it
This is my new tutor.
It's nice to meet you.
I doubt Her Majesty will even notice m-...
sneak
Well, I'll be all right. I'll just sit quietly at the edge.
You were the one who brought her here, right?
What is she really like?
Hm
Oh!
Sei Shonagon!
あ
Hmm...
Why don't you look and see for yourself?
in mere moments...
of a crowd
She picked me out
Come sit with me...
Why are you hiding in the corner?
tmp tmp tmp
Sorry,
but at the moment,
I'm afraid I'd completely condemn you, Shonagon.
Tee-hee-hee. I'm going to kill you, Benkan.
You stand out because you're a pervert.

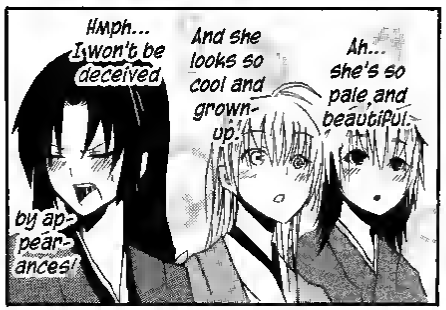
she's well aware

trying to avoid an accident



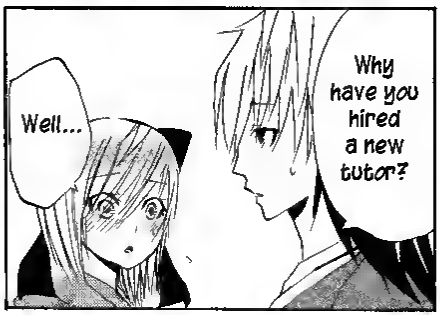




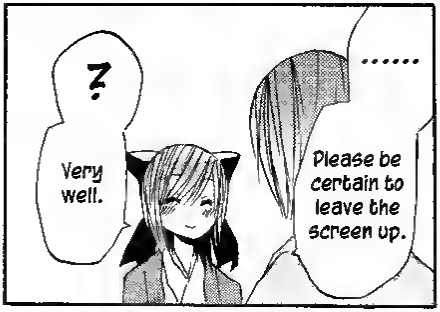


Surrounded by Idiots

That's Scary

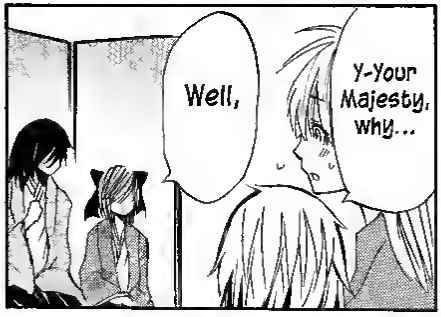


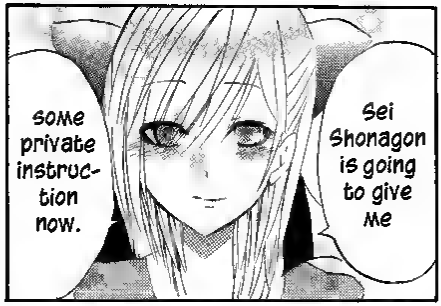
because of her usual conduct



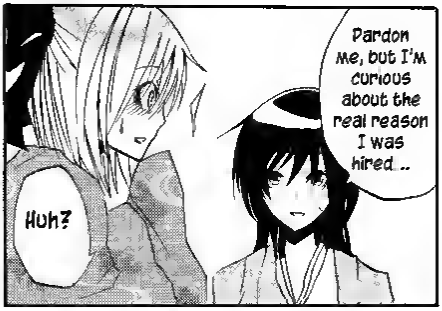
* To kill herself with if at risk of sexual assault

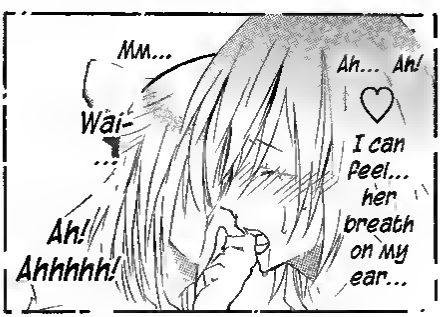
that's not what she meant



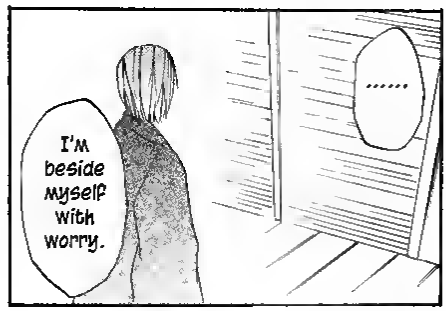


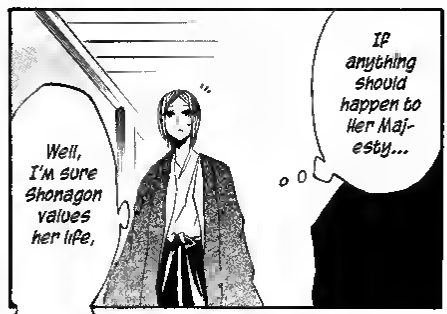
Listen

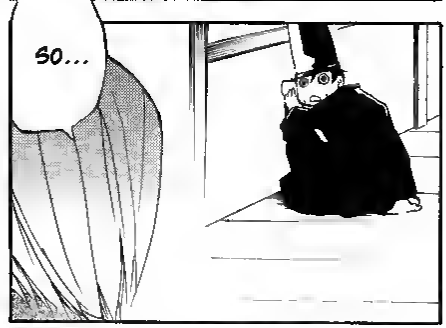


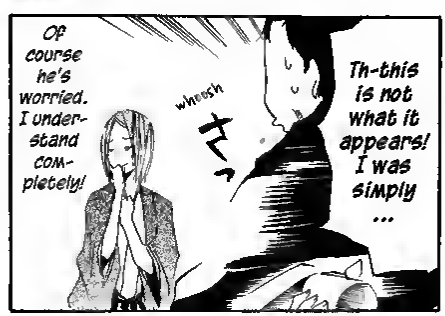


Both Worried



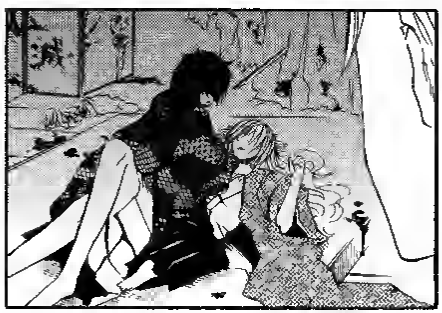


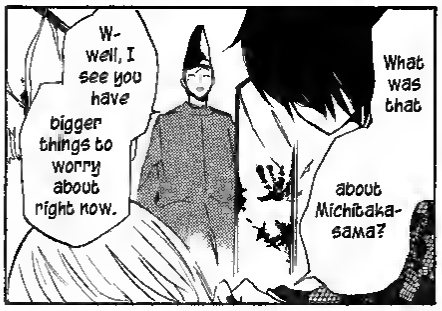




a father's worries

Even my household is talking about
Have you heard about the Empress's new lady-in-waiting?
that new tutor my brother hired.
Oh, my!





her majesty today 3

There was never anyone I could call a friend.
Ever since I was little, I've been surrounded by gentlewomen my father chose for me.

chapter 4

meanwhile...

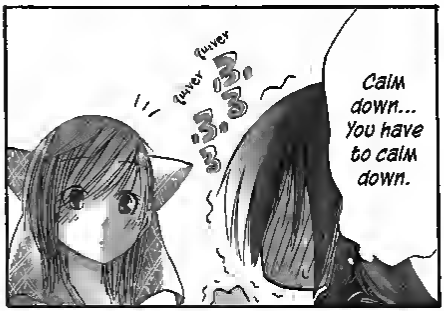
We should continue to do things our own way
She has nothing to do with us.

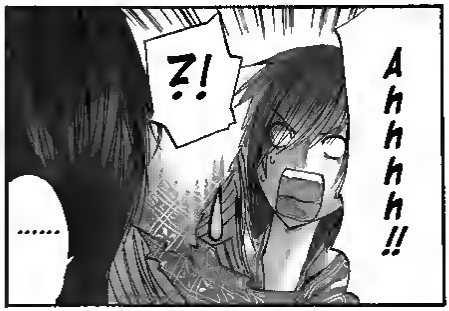
Sei Shonagon...
Empress Teishi's new tutor,

I'm opposed to that plan.
CRACK
YET... WE'LL [illegible] HER TO DEATH BEFORE SHE CAN POSE A THREAT.

No.
Curious about her, are you, Murasaki?

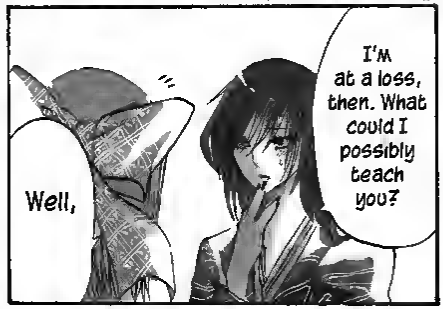
eerie

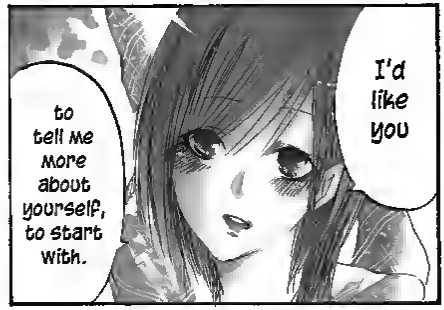




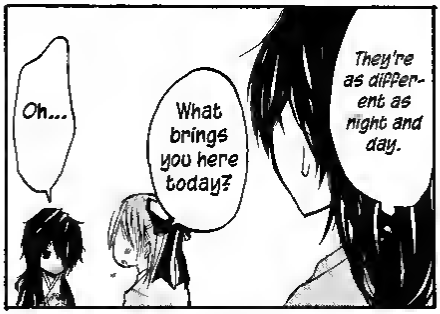
a mind of its own

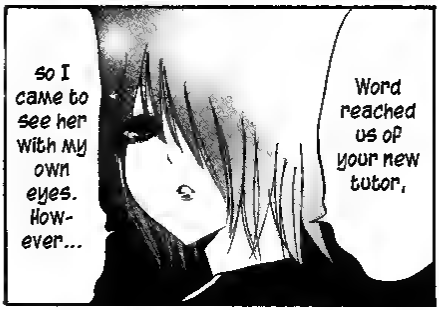
* A Chinese historical text Known as ***Records of the Grand Historian*** in English





Shoushi~sama

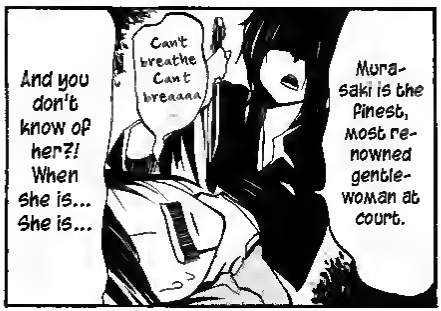




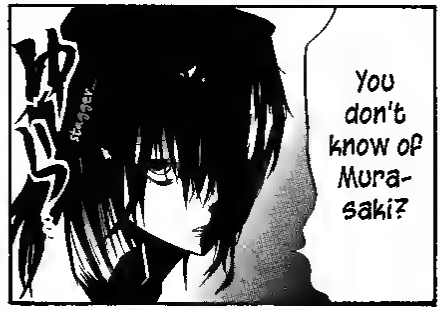
Mistaken for a Lady~in~waiting

Oh, dear
Don't go along with it
My uncle had her brought in, didn't he?
She was a poor choice. You should send her wa--
Shou-shi.
What a disappointment to find a paltry human.
My father was impressed with you, so I came to take your measure.
This has nothing to do with my father.
Shonagon is my lady-in-waiting. I selected her.
Look at her otherworldly beauty!
Of course, you fool!
You were hoping for someone... more than human?
So please don't say such frightful things
to the woman I've chosen!
Will you have the ability to protect her?
A devil or spirit is bound to come carry her off.
squeeze
She's looking frightful all on her own.
Shonagon?!
Shonagon...?
I need power...!
I need the power to protect Her Majesty...
that I'm powerless...
Oh, no! She's right. I've known for a while now

Bondage

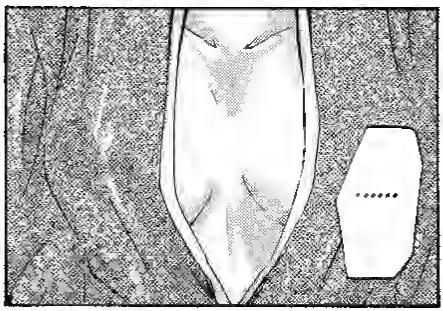

Can't breathe Can't breaaaa
And you don't know of her?! When she is... She is...
Murasaki is the finest, most renowned gentlewoman at court.

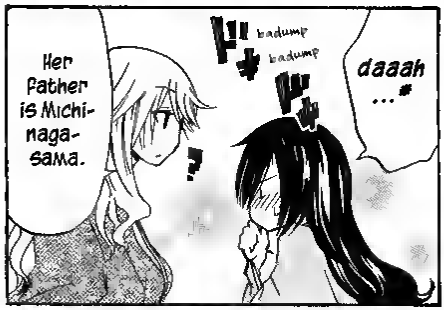
Because of her Ignorance



* Shoushi literally suggests slicing Shonagon into 108 pieces. 108 is an important number in Buddhism. The "hungry ghost" in question is also known as a preta.

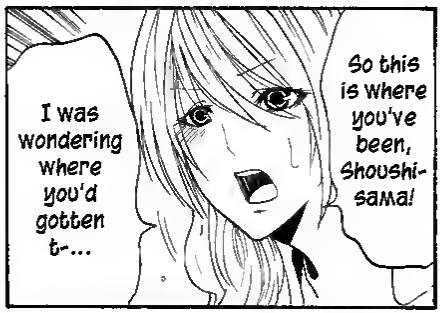
What is she, a drooling adolescent?





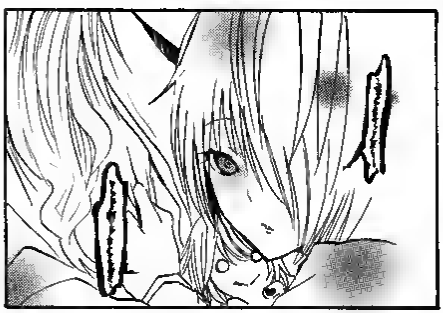
* In the original she says "breasts" ("chichi") which sounds like a word for "father"

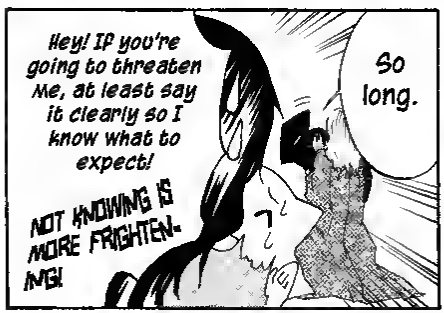
A misunderstanding



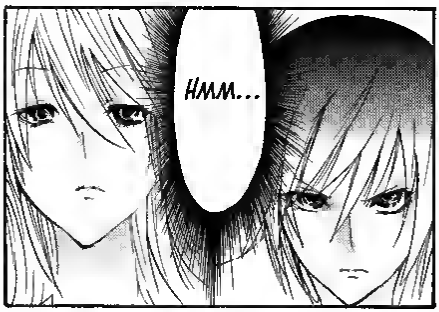
* In the original she says "I'm going to die" which sounds like "I'm going to come" (as in, have an orgasm) The original title of the strip references this play on words as well

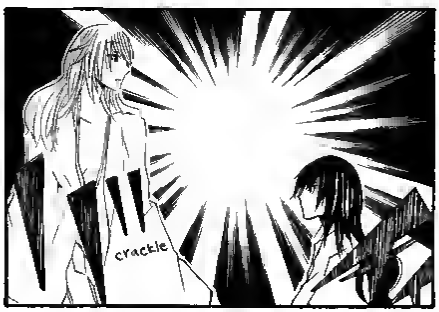
Left to her imagination

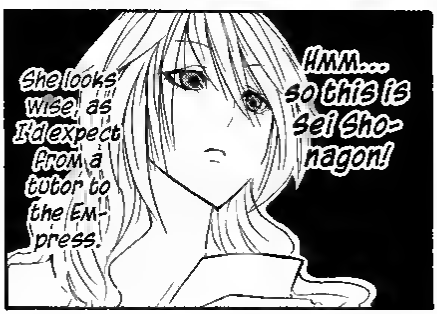




Building up to nothing

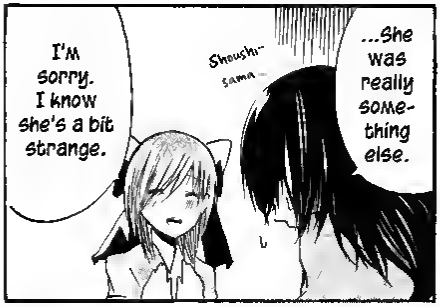




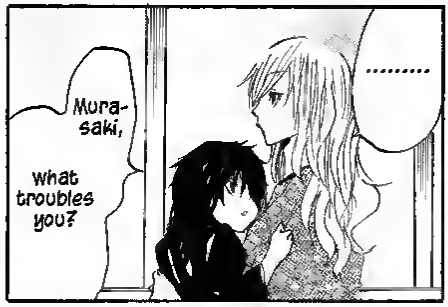


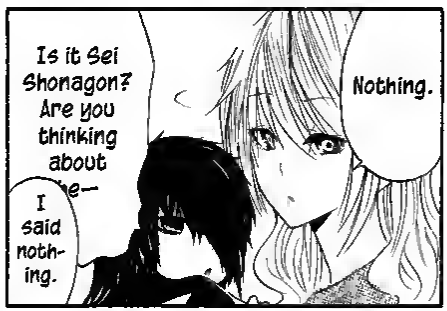
Please don't say such frightful things
to the woman I've chosen!
I could spend the rest of my life reflecting on her cuteness. Ahhhh! I want to just eat her up!
Ah... Her Majesty was adorable...

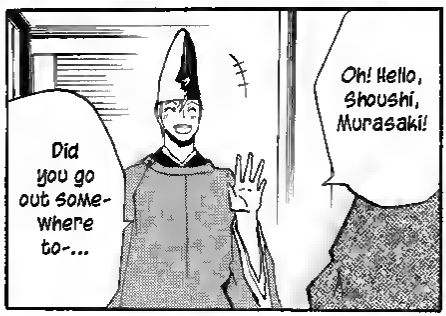
her majesty today 4

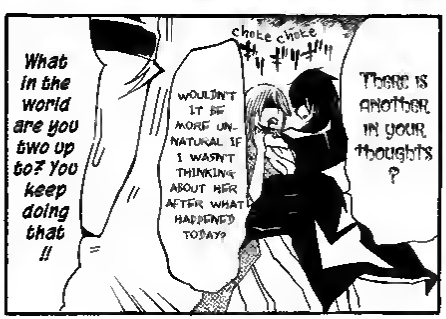


a father's agitation








What in the world are you two up to? You keep doing that!!
choke choke
WOULDN'T IT BE MORE UNNATURAL IF I WASN'T THINKING ABOUT HER AFTER WHAT HAPPENED TODAY?
There is another in your thoughts?

Sei ❖ Shonagon

She's 27 in this manga. I've tried to portray her as an adult who's capable yet hopeless, but, well, you can see how that has turned out.

I'm recklessly ignoring a number of major assumptions about her life, but please don't pay that any mind.

There are a number of scenes where Shonagon has blood gushing out of her. It's meant to be coming from her mouth, because of the major strain on her heart.

Ordinary desire -> drool

Excessive emotional shock (positive or negative) -> vomiting blood

For the most part, anyway. That's probably true of other characters as well.

I love Japanese history but hate reading classics. So, though I liked Sei Shonagon herself, I had never properly read ***The Pillow Book*** *until I started working on this series. I'm sorry about that.*

fujiwara ❖ no ❖ teishi

She's 13 in this manga. I think I've been depicting her as a child who had to grow up too quickly because of her situation. I don't know how well that's come across.

*My initial design of her was a tsundere with blond pigtails. Looking back on it now, that would have been really cliche, and I'm just not feeling it. So I'm glad I changed my mind about it.**

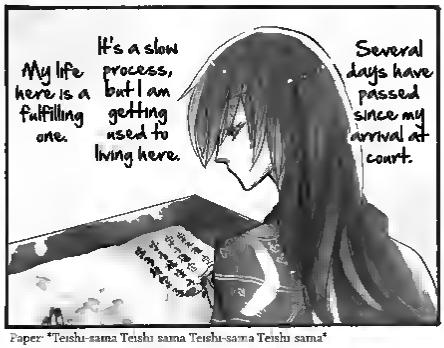
*People tell me that her bow looks like ears. To be honest, I added that in as an homage to the sister of a certain robotic cat from the future. So it's only natural, really.***

In the original text, Teishi is a bit more submissive and much more mischievous. That's charming in its own way, but, well... oh, let's just leave it at that.

* "Tsundere" means to have a hot-and-cold personality: being passive aggressive at first, but showing a sweeter side over time.
** This is a reference to ***Doraemon***, an anime/manga series. The title character has a younger sister named Dorami, whose red ears look like a bow.

chapter 5

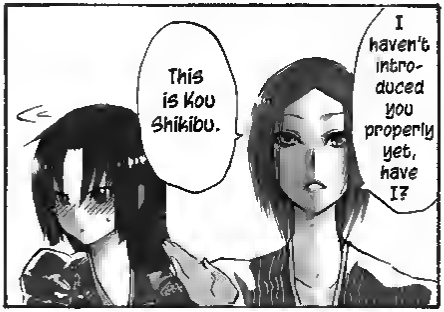
Welcome Back

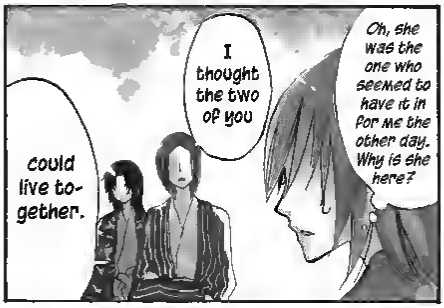

Several days have passed since my arrival at court.
It's a slow process, but I am getting used to living here.
My life here is a fulfilling one.

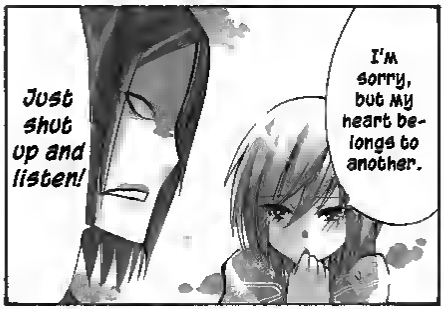
Paper: *Teishi-sama Teishi sama Teishi-sama Teishi sama*

But, for some reason,
even as my relationship with Her Majesty deepens, I feel as though something else is slipping away... As though a hole has opened in my heart... Like something is lacking...

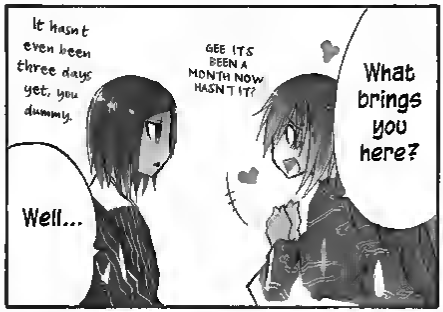
her sword will be coming out any minute now

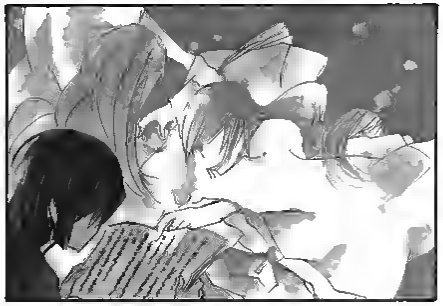


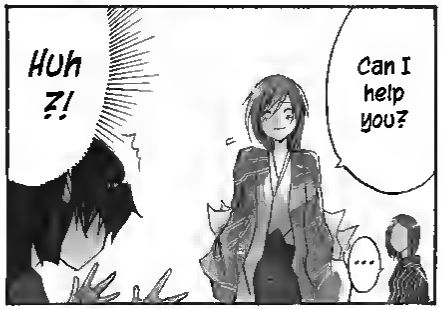




moving at the speed of light

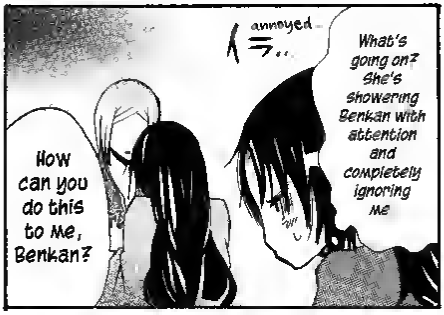


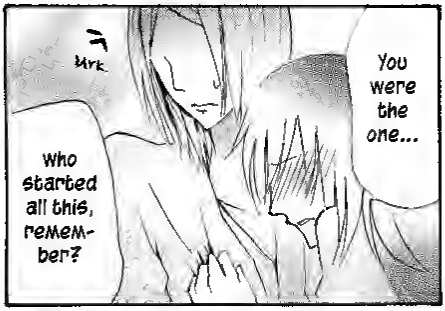


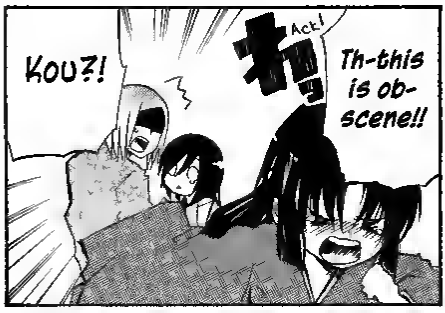


*Benkan says "aiheya" ("shared room") which sounds to Shonagon like "love room," since "ai" can also mean "love."

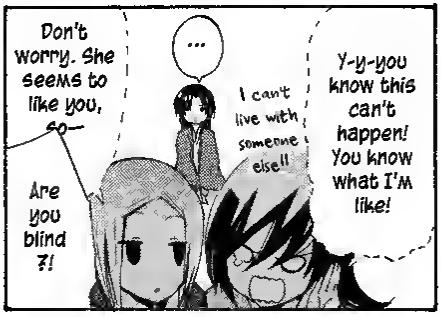
the WRONG Idea

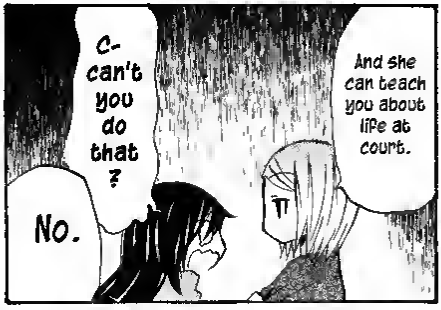


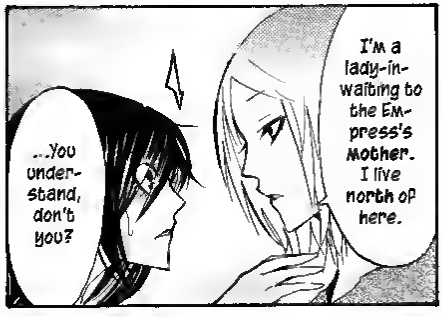




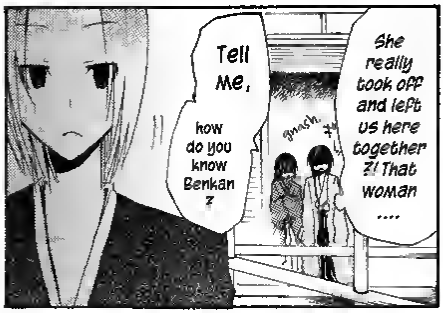
OVERHEARD

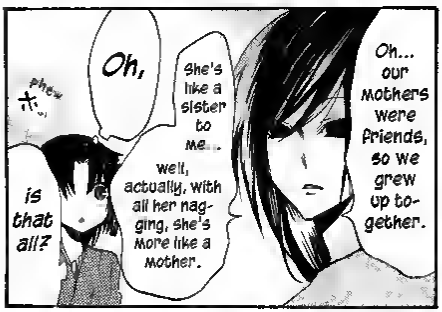

Don't worry. She seems to like you, so—
...
I can't live with someone else!!
Y-y-you know this can't happen! You know what I'm like!
Are you blind?!





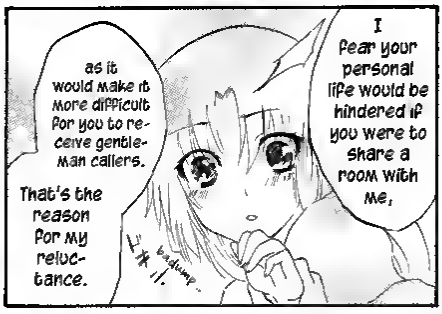
another misunderstanding

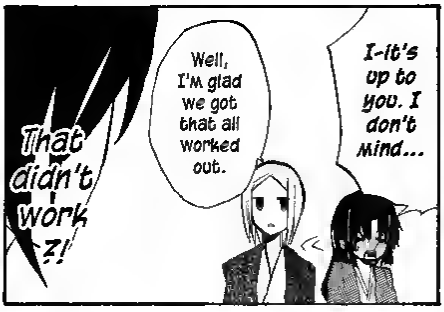



Oh,
phew
is that all?
She's like a sister to me...
well, actually, with all her nagging, she's more like a mother.
Oh... our mothers were friends, so we grew up together.

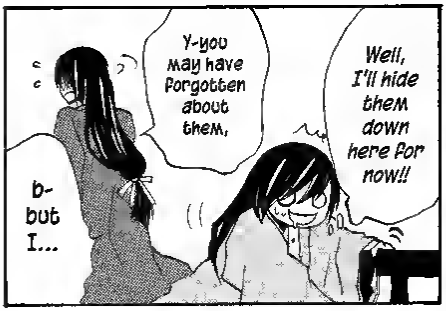
a poor choice

Gurk! I made her mad?!
If you don't want to share a room, that's just fine with me! I only agreed to it because Benkan asked me anyway!


I fear your personal life would be hindered if you were to share a room with me,
as it would make it more difficult for you to receive gentleman callers.
That's the reason for my reluctance.
Ugh!!
suddenly



superhuman speed

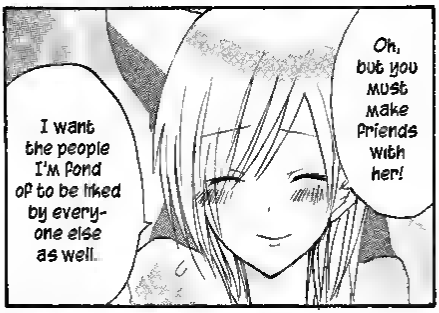


trying hard and overwhelmed

You're not even from a high ranking family!!
the other day
Oh, I'd better apologize for what I said the other day. She must be angry about that, right?

Especially the stuff about Her Majesty!
Crap! If she sees this, I'll be in for a lot worse than a few angry words...
I have bigger things to worry about right now. What am I gonna do about my diary?

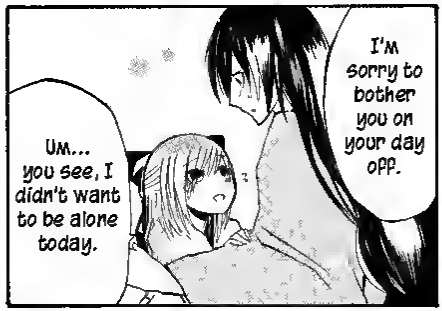
I hear you're to share a room with Kou Shikibu.
Yes...
but I'm rather anxious about it.


Oh, but you must make friends with her!
I want the people I'm fond of to be liked by everyone else as well.

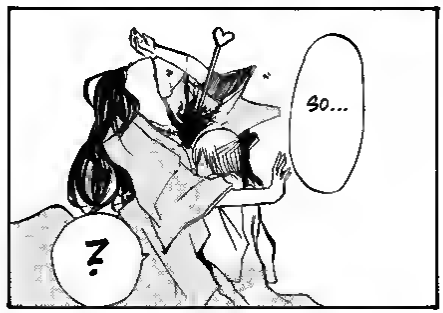
her subtle way of declaring her lov—
Was that...
F-...
fond?!
Don't tell me...

gasp
Her Majesty spoke carelessly again?

Your Majesty, is something amiss?!
whoosh
!!


I'm sorry to bother you on your day off.
Um... you see, I didn't want to be alone today.

And you did agree to indulge my selfishness, didn't you?

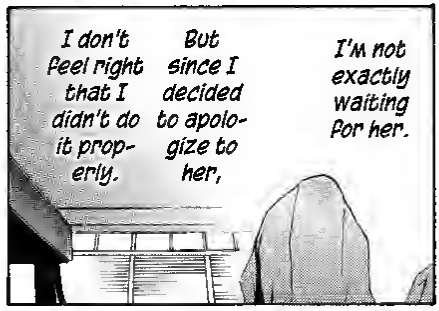

So...
?

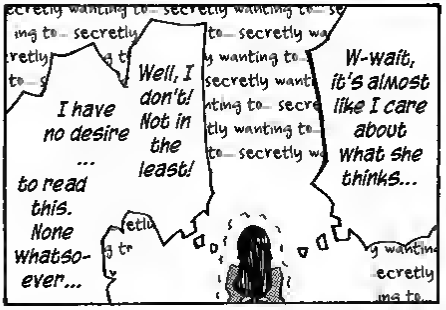
meanwhile, where adults act their age
I sent it to my cousin.
Shoushi-sama, do you know where my book has gotten to?
Why is that so important to you?
sigh
When she reads it, she will see that you're superior to Shonagon.
It doesn't matter to me.
All I care about is being number one with you, Shoushi-sama
We'd best get back to your lessons now.
I see your vocabulary is still quite limited.
...You fool!
she only remembers things of interest
Oh, I've just remembered—Shoushi sent this over.
Oh... a book?
Murasaki...
Murasaki-san wrote it. Would you like to read it together?
Boobs ...?
Oh, the one with the boobs!

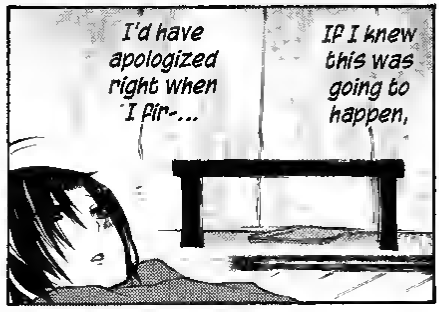
* This is a lyric from the ***Sailor Moon*** anime opening theme ***Moonlight Densetsu***. "Shikou kairo wa SHOTTO sunzen"

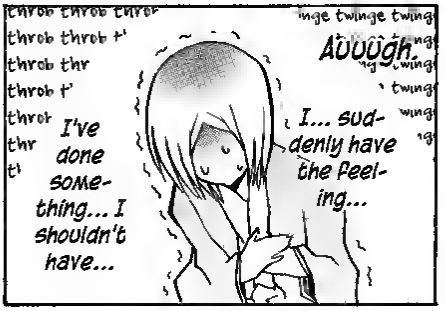
her train of thought short-circuited*

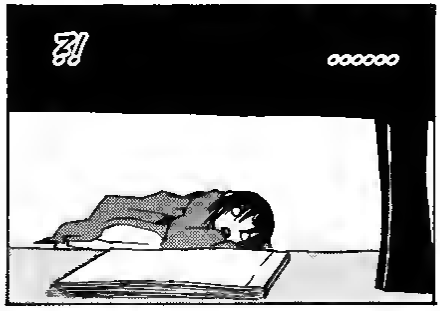
sigh

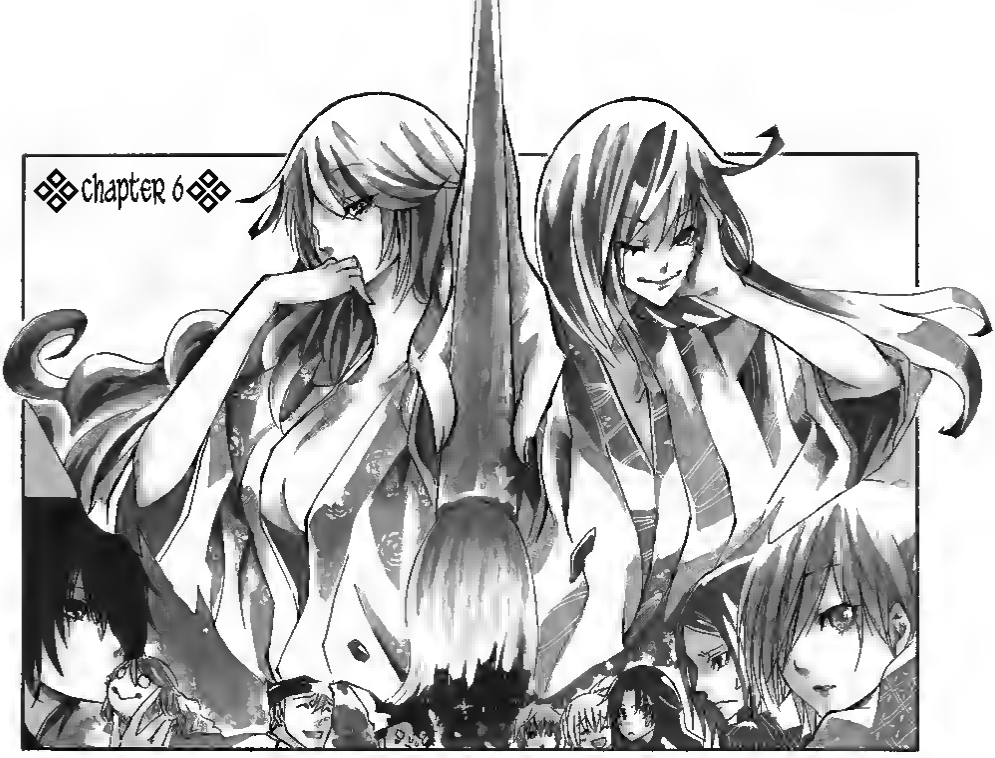



I have no desire ... to read this. None whatsoever...
Well, I don't! Not in the least!
W-wait, it's almost like I care about what she thinks...

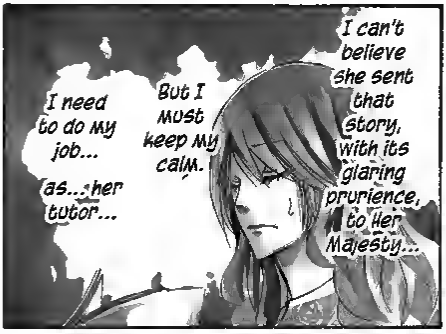


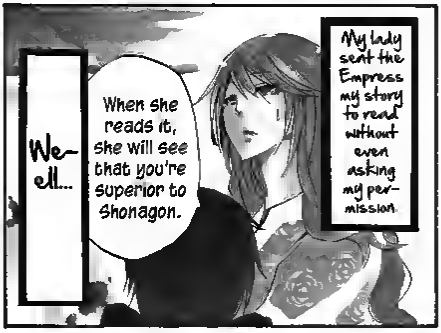


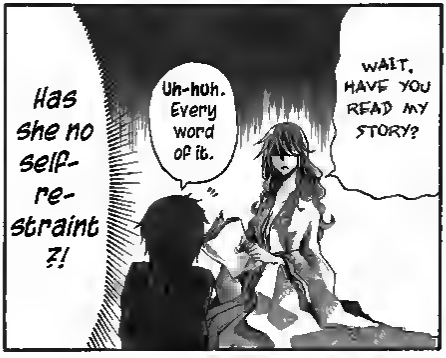


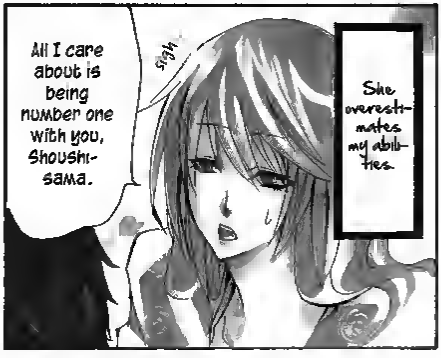


the empress saw it


I need to do my job... as...her tutor...
But I must keep my calm.
I can't believe she sent that story, with its glaring prurience, to Her Majesty...


My lady sent the Empress my story to read without even asking my permission.
We-ell...
When she reads it, she will see that you're superior to Shonagon.



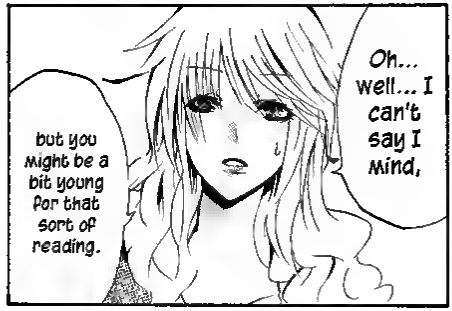


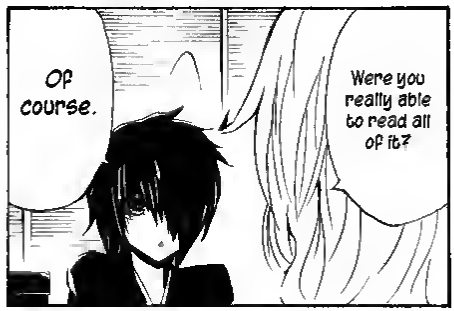
* "Paradise Ginza," a song by the Japanese idol group Hikaru Genji who are named after the title character from ***The Tale of Genji***

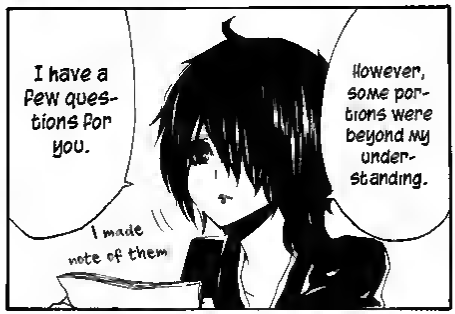
* *SF* is a relatively common acronym in Japanese. It stands for Science Fiction, usually

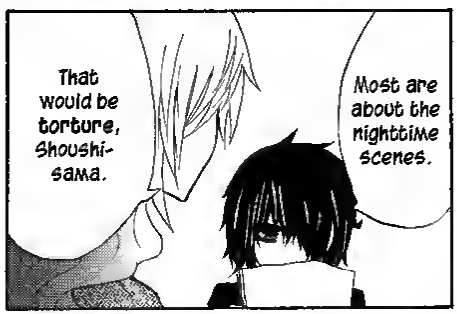
like paradise galaxy*

the story is s (slightly) f (filthy)*

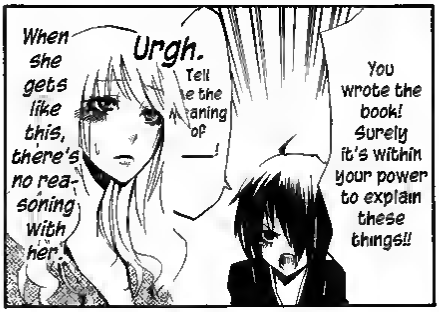


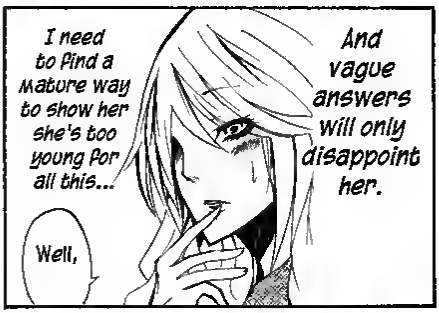


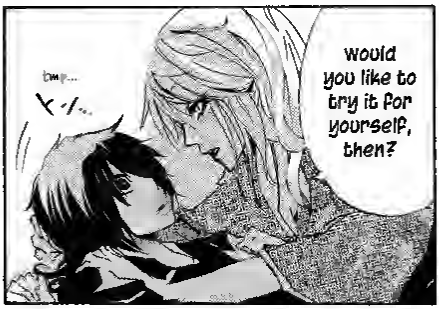




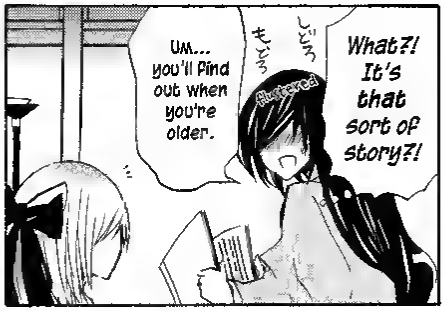
not quite right

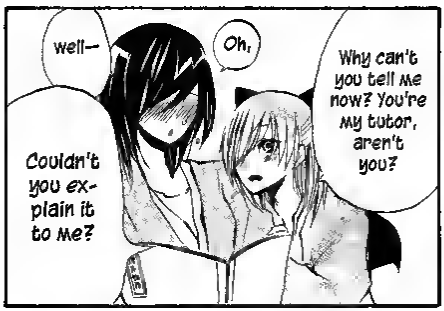

When she gets like this, there's no reasoning with her.
Urgh.
Tell me the meaning of ——!
You wrote the book! Surely it's within your power to explain these things!!

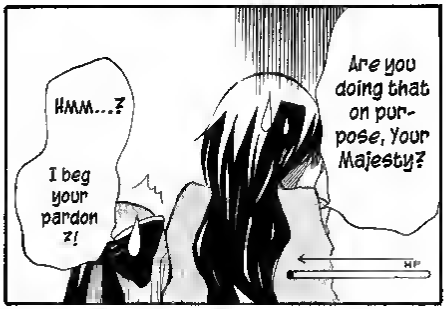




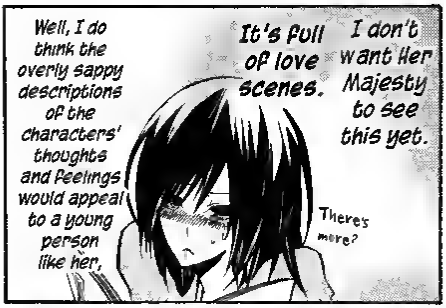
what has gotten into her majesty today?

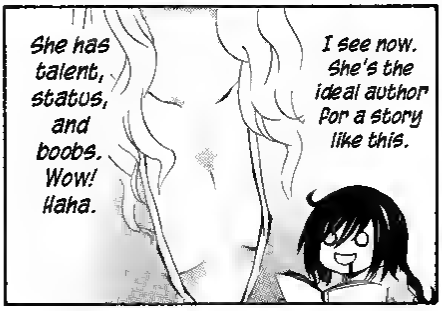


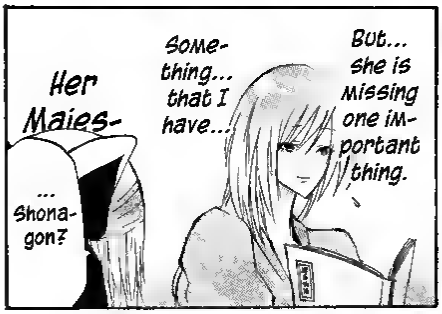




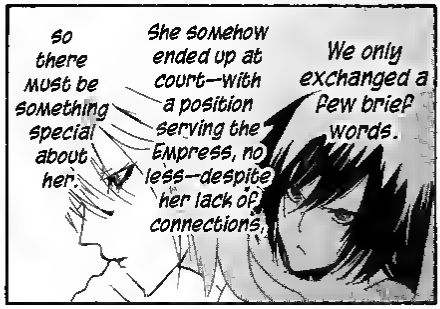
not actually yours, sorry

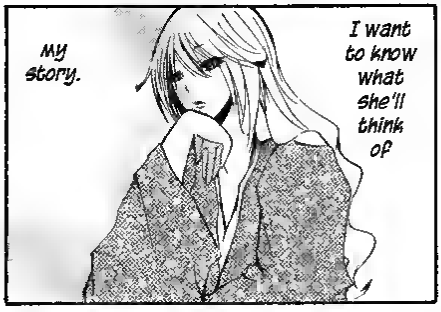

Well, I do think the overly sappy descriptions of the characters' thoughts and feelings would appeal to a young person like her,
It's full of love scenes.
I don't want Her Majesty to see this yet.
There's more?

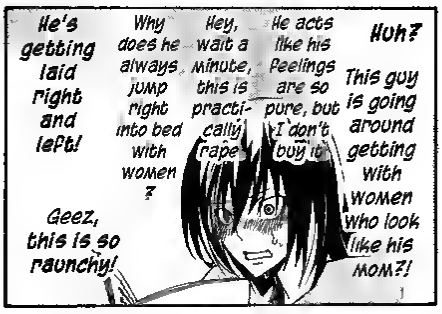




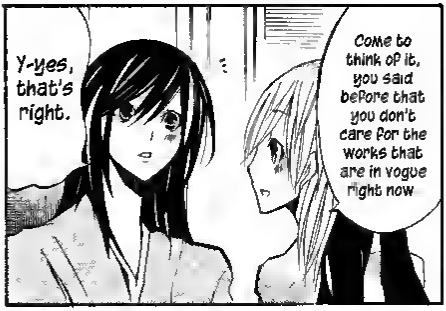
how cruel

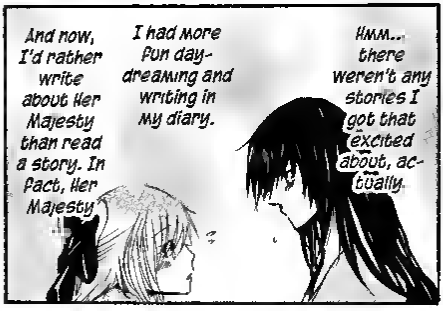

so there must be something special about her.
She somehow ended up at court—with a position serving the Empress, no less—despite her lack of connections.
We only exchanged a few brief words.

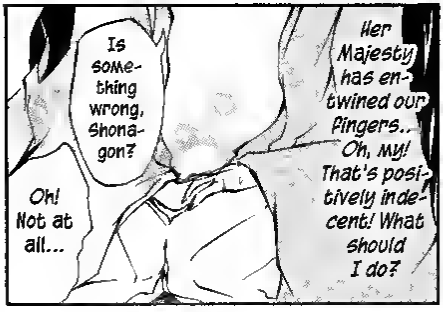



He's getting laid right and left!
Why does he always jump right into bed with women?
Hey, wait a minute, this is practically rape.
He acts like his feelings are so pure, but I don't buy it.
Huh?
This guy is going around getting with women who look like his mom?!
Geez, this is so raunchy!

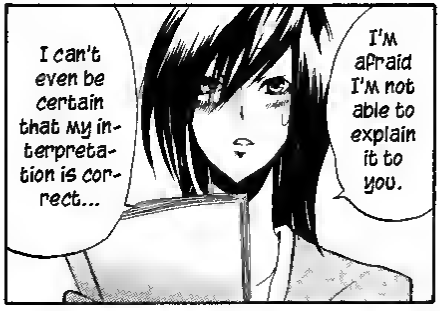
how did this happen?

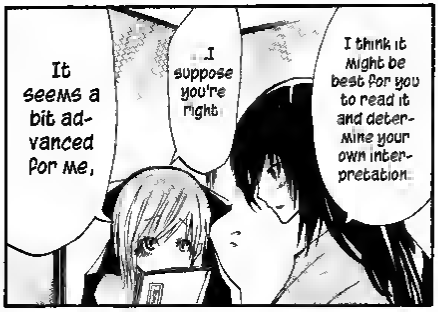


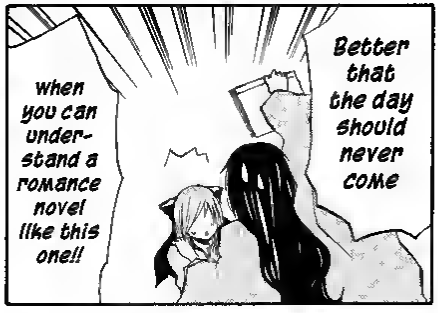

And now, I'd rather write about Her Majesty than read a story. In fact, Her Majesty
I had more fun day-dreaming and writing in my diary.
Hmm... there weren't any stories I got that excited about, actually.


Is something wrong, Shonagon?
Oh! Not at all...
Her Majesty has entwined our fingers... Oh, my! That's positively indecent! What should I do?

stay pure




It seems a bit advanced for me,
I suppose you're right.
I think it might be best for you to read it and determine your own interpretation.

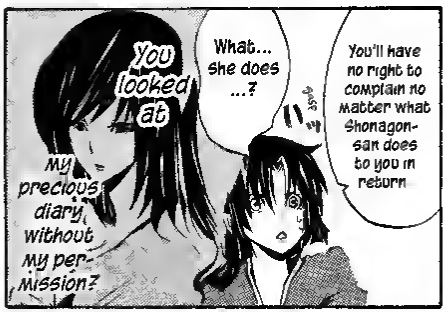


...I don't believe there's anything extraordinary about my life.
Perhaps I have a cynical outlook,
but I think even the most wonderful stories
are still
mere fabrications.
To me, the events that occur in my life are
far more miraculous and fascinating.
But
I have met an extraordinary person. Someone who makes my reality...
You say the most interesting things.
She brushed it off as just "interesting"...

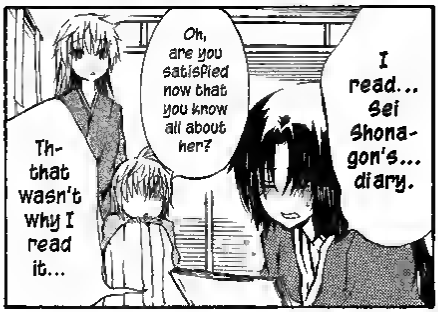
thinking this way is an occupational hazard
Hmm ...?
Wait! What if Shonagon should fall in love with your writing?
Personally, I'd be glad.
Well...
What have I done?
And if she should fall in love with you as well?!
I've felt strange ever since I read your story...
What would you have me do?
Heh heh
You know full well.
What will you do to make it up to me?
You see?!
That would be a problem.
just when she reached the heart of the matter
Oh, I have an idea!
Why don't you write a book?
Excuse me?!
Instead of a story, you should write about the wonderful reality around us!
Well... I'm sort of doing that already...
But it's not the kind of thing I could show anyone.
I would love to read something like that.
Oh, my... She's so warm... Ahhhh. I don't care about anything anymore. Hehehe.....
Oh...
E-especially not Her Majesty!

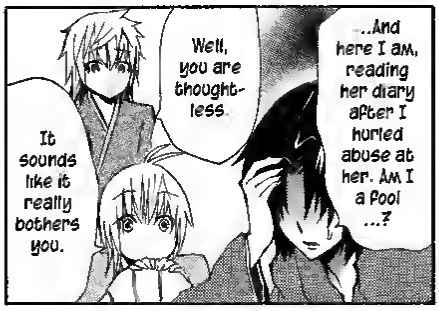
everyone's got one thing on their minds

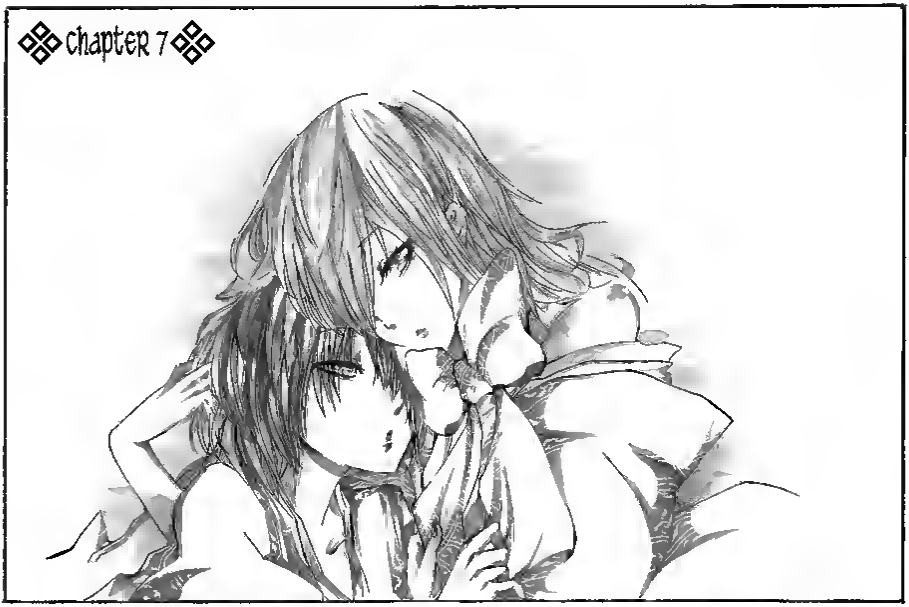
Just feeling guilty won't help anything, will it?
Urk!
I-I know I shouldn't have read it.
I can't believe you.
We were worried, so we stopped in to check on you. And then..


You looked at my precious diary without my permission?
What... she does ...?
You'll have no right to complain no matter what Shonagon-san does to you in return

they were there the whole time

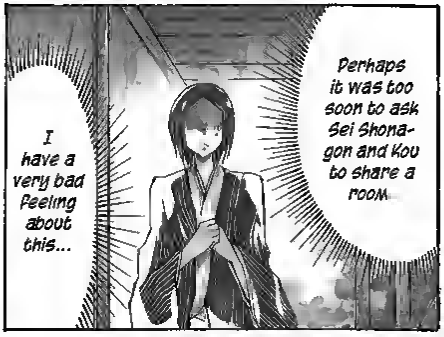


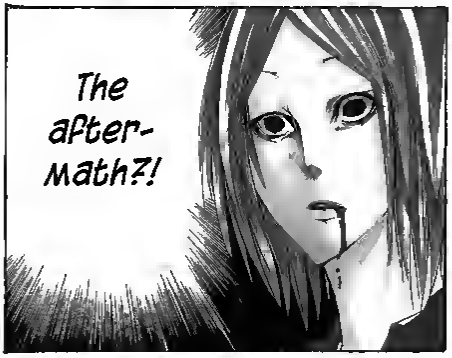

...And here I am, reading her diary after I hurled abuse at her. Am I a fool ...?
Well, you are thoughtless.
It sounds like it really bothers you.

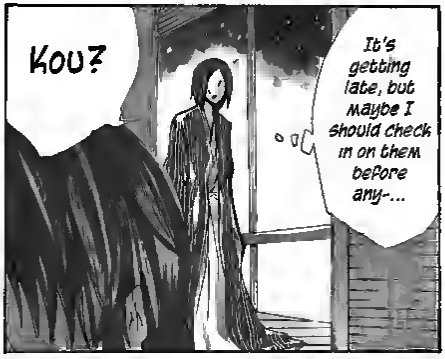

chapter 7

too late

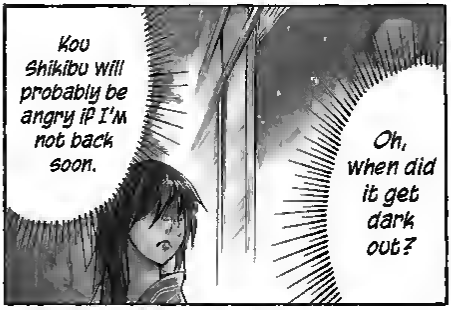
Ben-kan...
I...

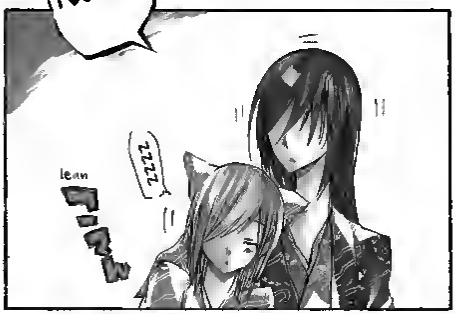

I have a very bad feeling about this...
Perhaps it was too soon to ask Sei Shonagon and Kou to share a room

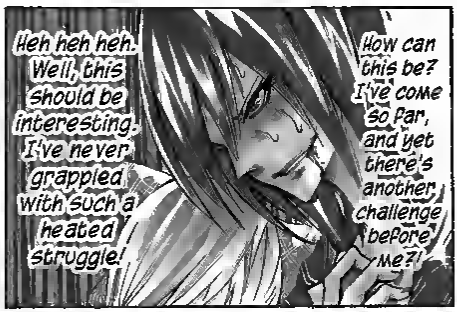

The after-math?!


Kou?
It's getting late, but maybe I should check in on them before any-...

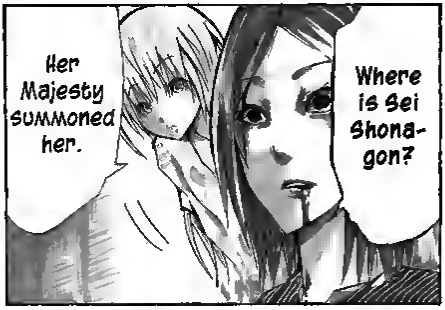
passion vs. Reason

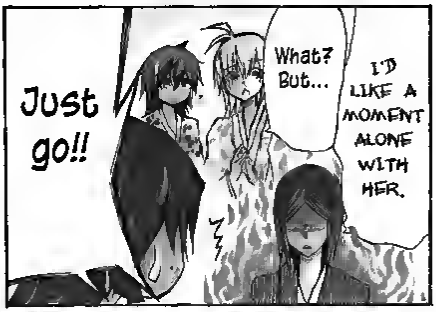




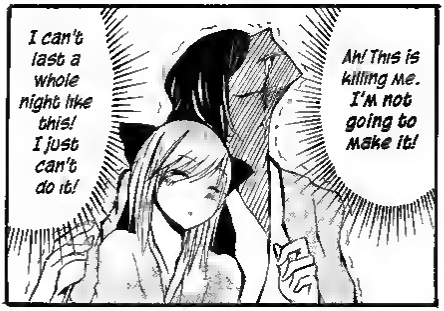

Heh heh heh. Well, this should be interesting. I've never grappled with such a heated struggle!
How can this be? I've come so far, and yet there's another challenge before me?!

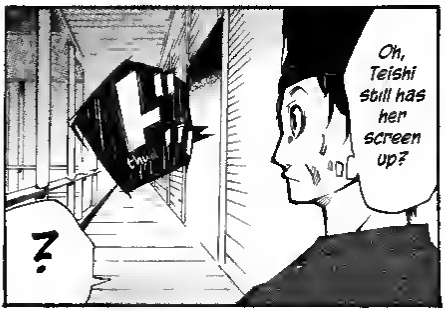
her suspicion is growing

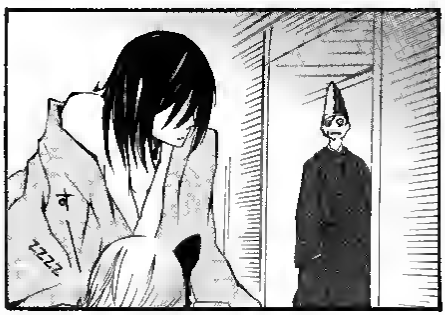




ah!





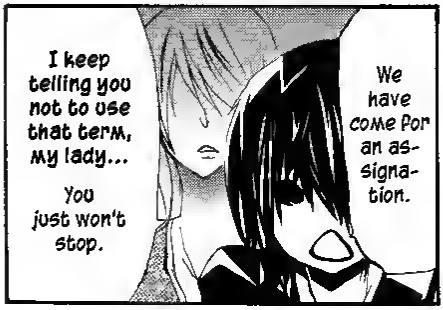


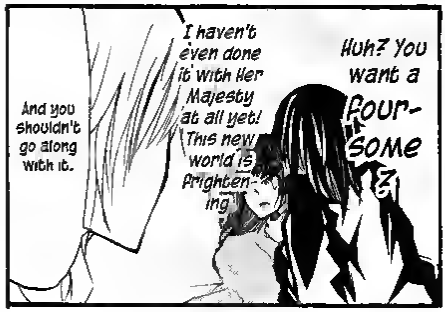
a Bad Influence

It's a bit late in the evening to visit anyone.
And you were the one who gave it to her in the first place.
Murasaki! I shall retrieve your book this eve.

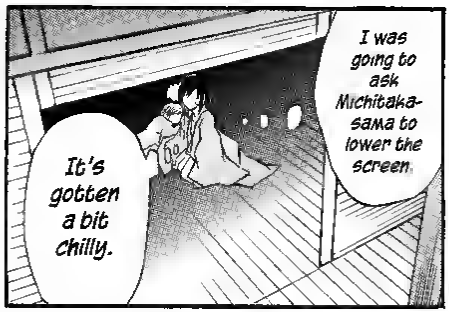
no, it was probably a mistake
thought she got the go-ahead
zzzz...
あはははは
Ahahahaha!
Y-yes, exactly !!
Oh, I see. She fell asleep in the midst of her studies...
zzzz
zzzz
Fallen asleep in someone's presence before.
Hmm. Teishi has never
I'm a bit worried about leaving her here alone.
That was close. That was incredibly close!!
Maybe I was right to hire her, despite everything.
This must be a sign of how comfortable she is with Sei Shonagon.
Would you mind spending the night with her ?
I wish you'd just get lost... Oh, dear, how could I be so rude to my father-in-law?
How long do you plan to stay here, Michitaka-sama? I finally get some excruciating yet blissful time alone with Her Majesty, and you have to come along and interrupt it!
Has there been some sort of misunderstanding?!
I-I have your permission?!

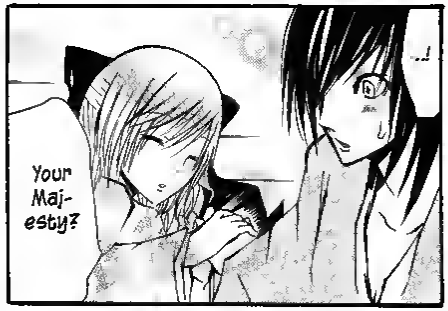
heating up

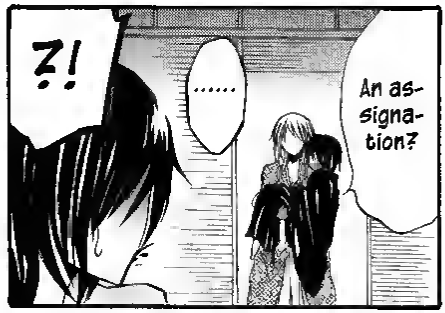



Huh? You want a foursome ?
I haven't even done it with Her Majesty at all yet! This new world is frightening!
And you shouldn't go along with it.

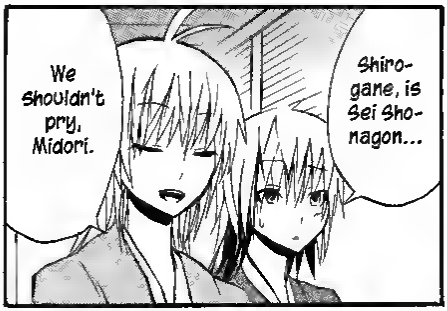
one after another

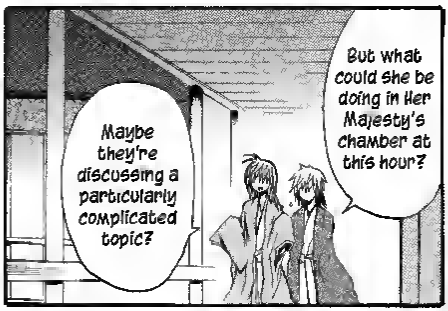


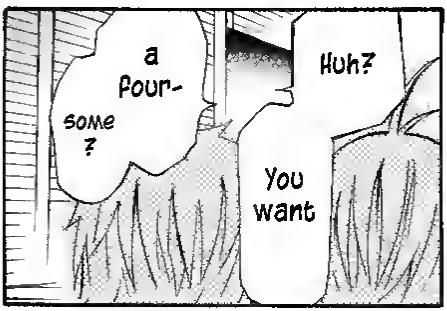


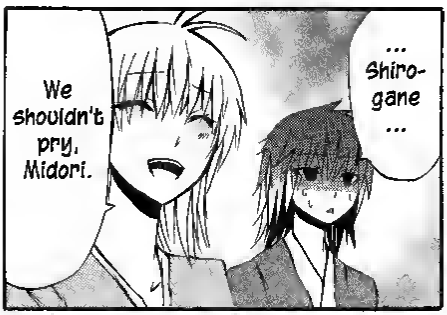


that is complicated



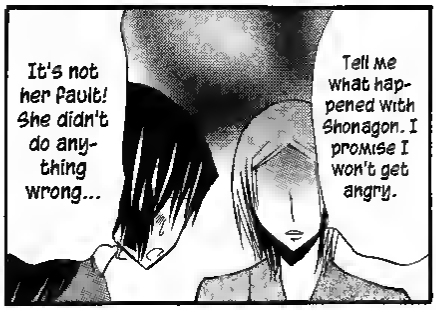

Maybe they're discussing a particularly complicated topic?
But what could she be doing in Her Majesty's chamber at this hour?

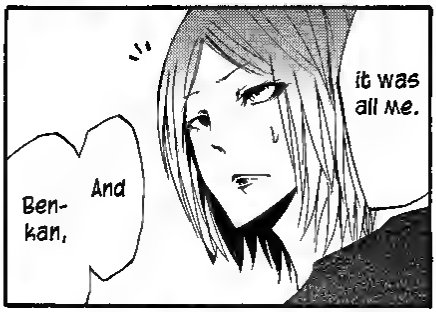


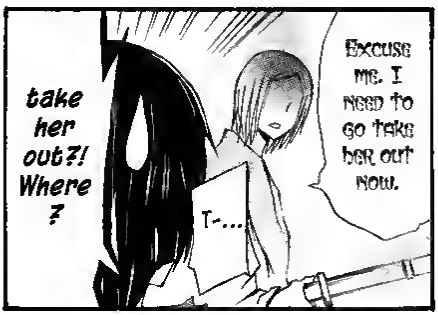


* Midori and Shirogane are named for their hair colors green and light silver, respectively

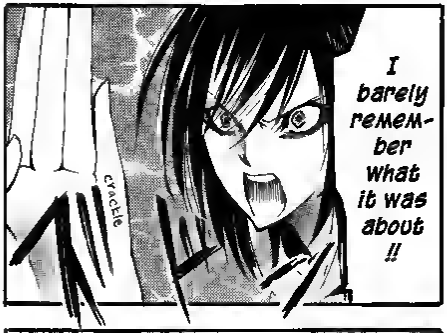
she short-circuited

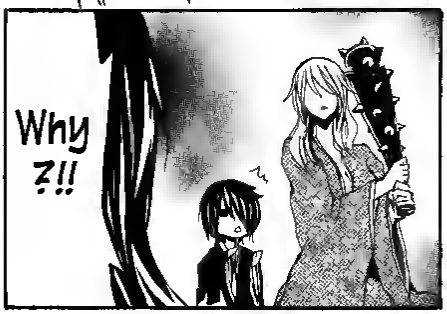




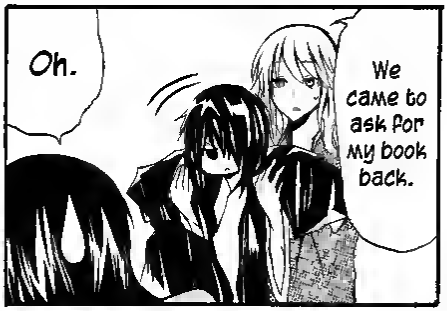


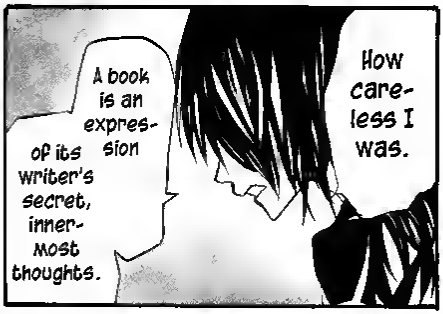
no surprise there

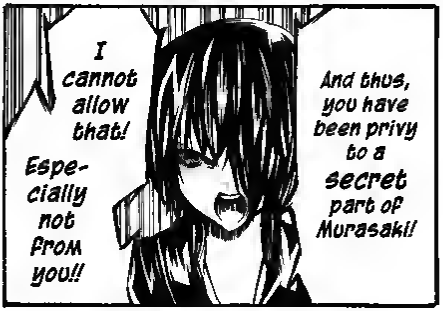


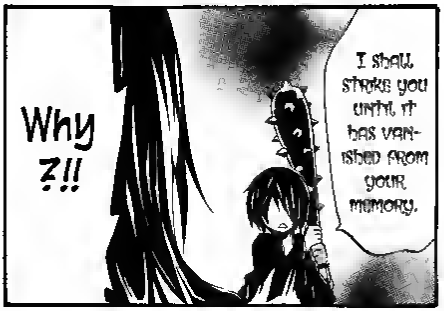


a bad idea for a lot of reasons

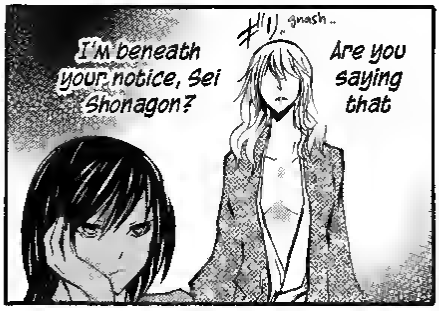


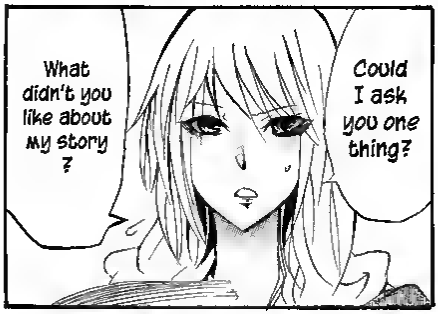


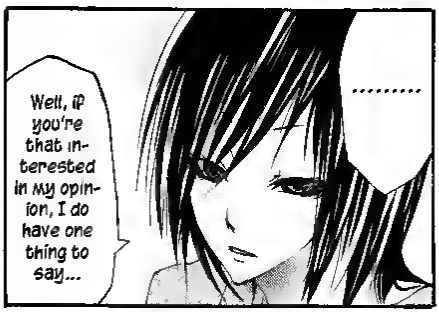


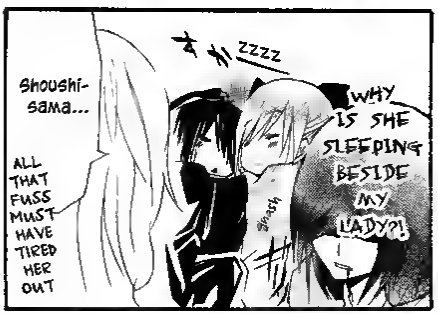


Because she's a child

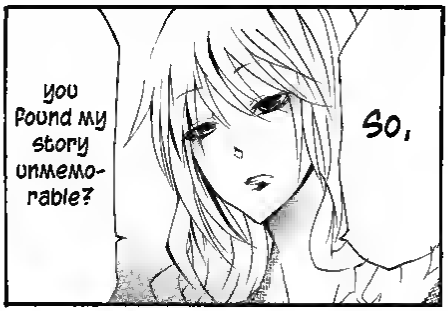




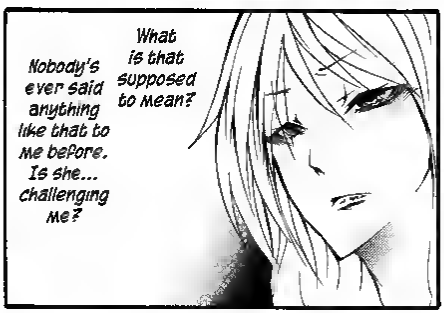


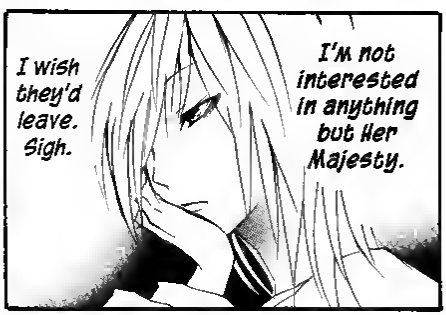


Still going nowhere

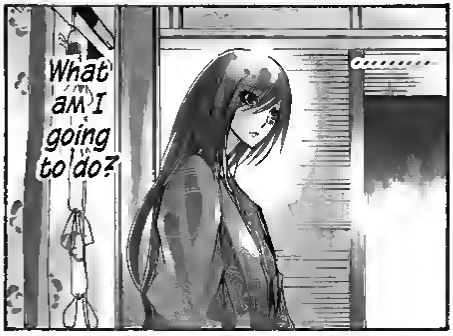


No. Objectively speaking, I did find it to be a noteworthy work.
It simply didn't capture my interest on a personal level.
That's all.

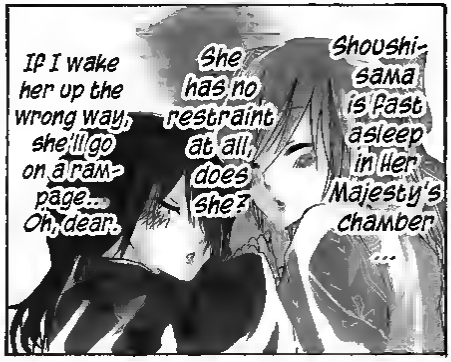




Inside their heads

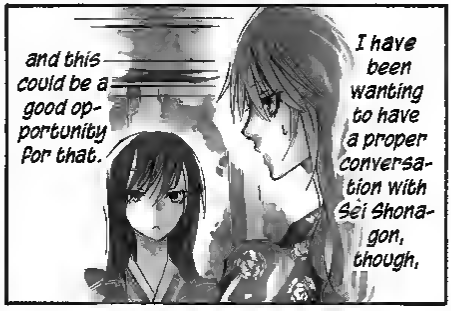


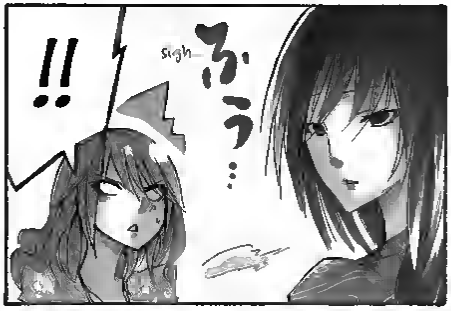
Darn it! Get out of the way! Stop trying to steal her away from me!
I-I wish I could gaze at it up close!
Her Majesty's sleeping face... is absolutely exquisite.

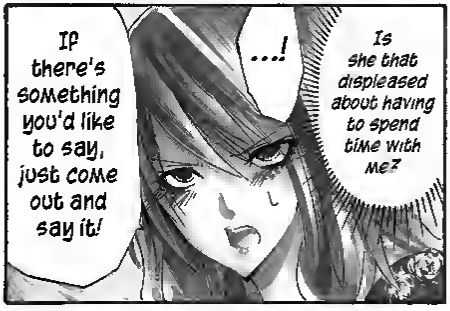

If I wake her up the wrong way, she'll go on a rampage... Oh, dear.
She has no restraint at all, does she?
Shoushi-sama is fast asleep in Her Majesty's chamber
...

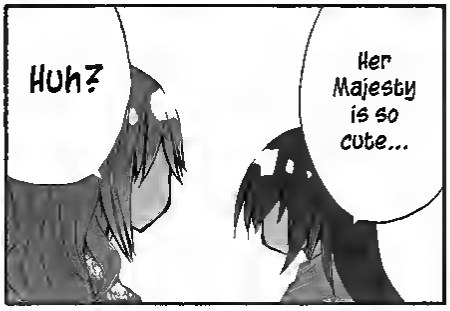
Loving her 24/7

Say it

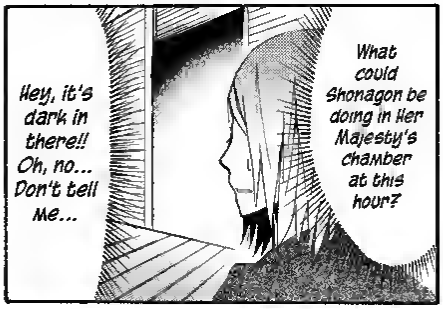


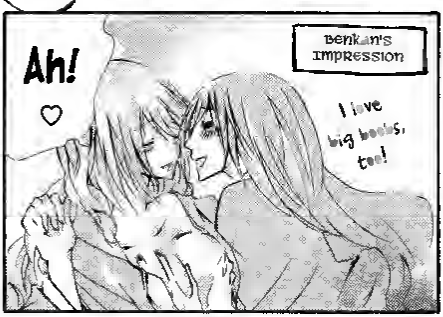


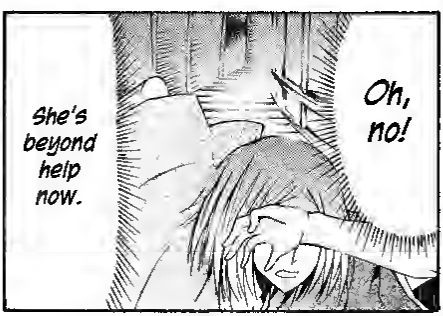




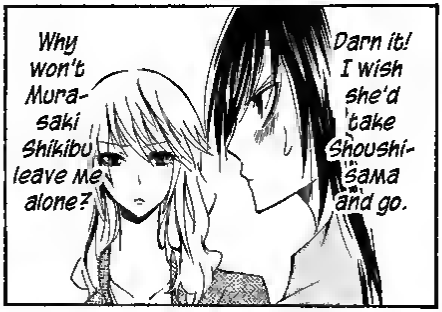
Benkan Reaches Her Limit

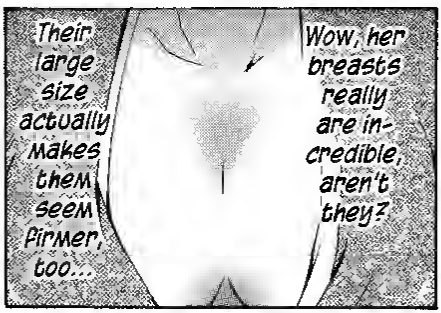


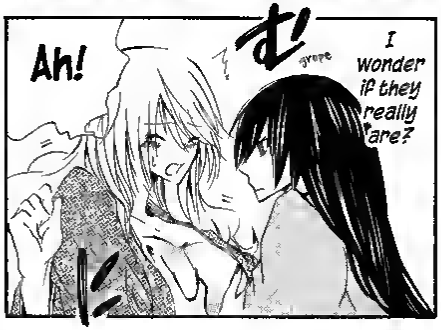


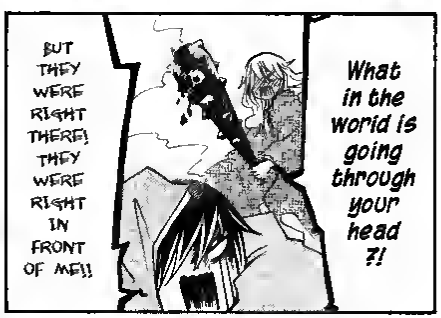


Confirmation

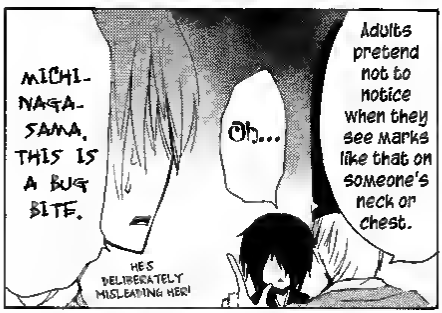






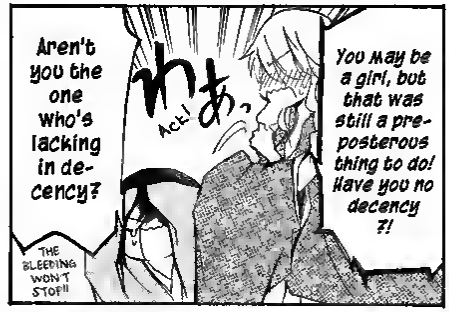


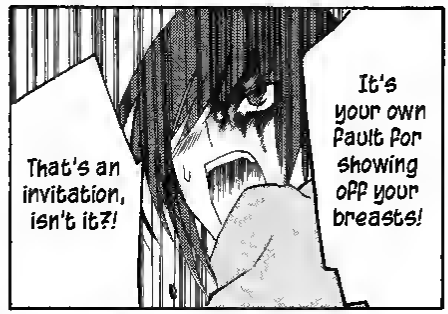
Intentions

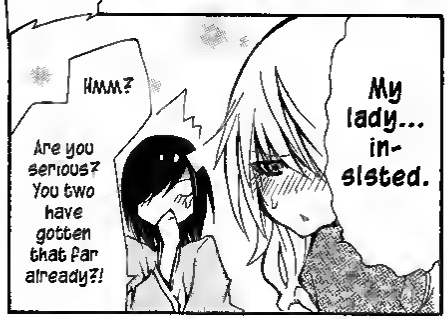

MICHINAGA-SAMA, THIS IS A BUG BITE.
Oh...
Adults pretend not to notice when they see marks like that on someone's neck or chest.
HE'S DELIBERATELY MISLEADING HER!

LOL.
That's what happened.
Hey! Shoushi-sama!
I CAN'T BELIEVE THIS FAMILY!
If I ever see another on you, your life is forfeit. Oh! You must wear your kimono open in front so you can't hide them

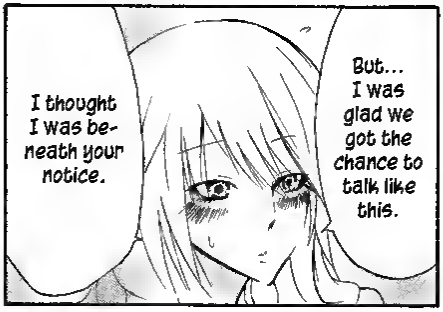
Just when you thought they were getting somewhere

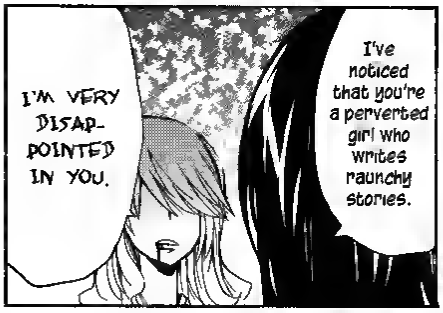

Aren't you the one who's lacking in decency?
わぁ
Ack!
You may be a girl, but that was still a preposterous thing to do! Have you no decency?!
THE BLEEDING WON'T STOP!!



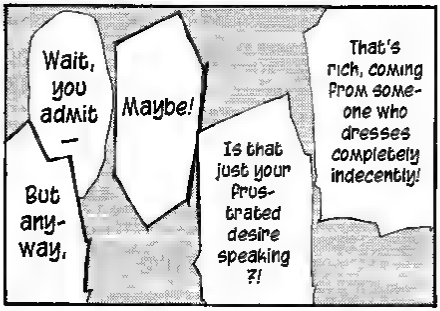


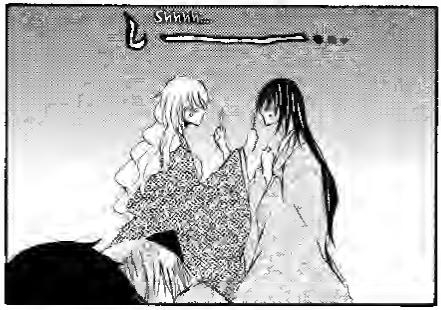
a low opinion



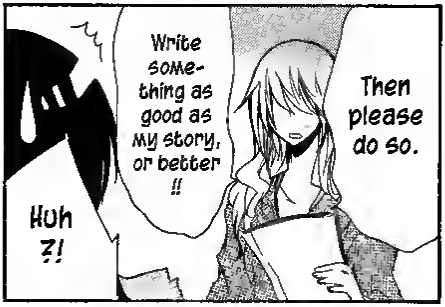


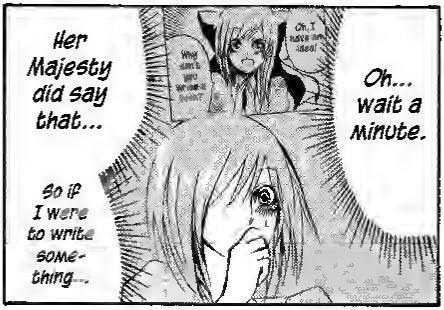
the danger of a loud argument

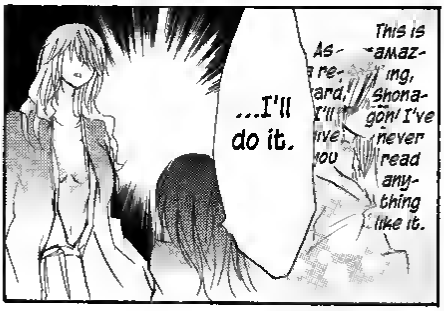

Wait, you admit —
But anyway,
Maybe!
Is that just your frustrated desire speaking?!
That's rich, coming from someone who dresses completely indecently!



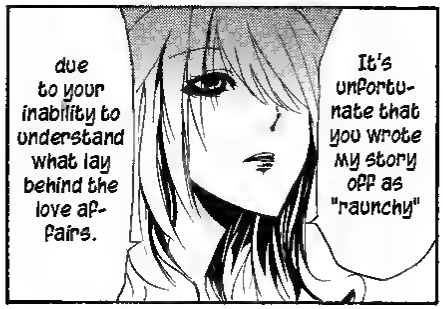
always on her mind

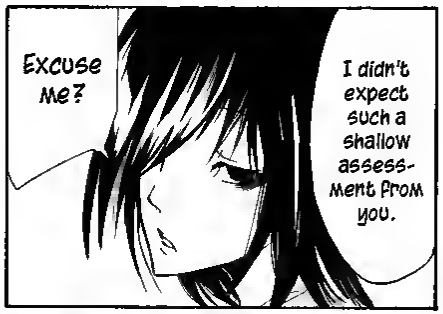






shallow

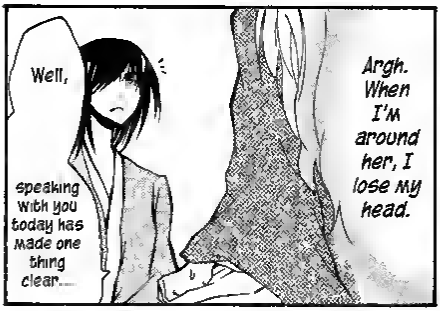

due to your inability to understand what lay behind the love affairs.
It's unfortunate that you wrote My story off as "raunchy"

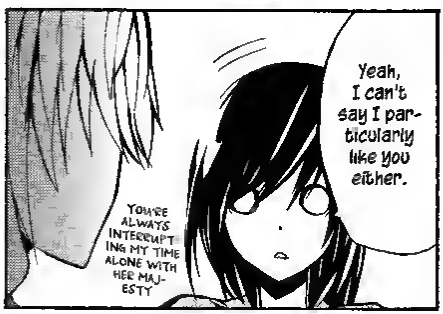


something self-centered like that.
Anyone can write
How incredibly conceited of you to expect such understanding from your readers.

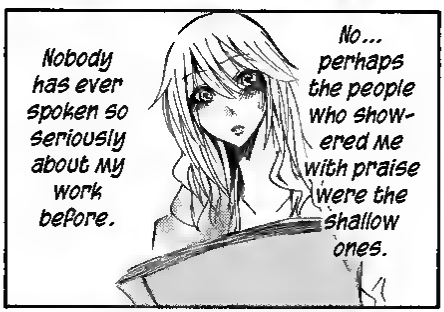
Nobody could possibly fail to understand that!
My diary is much better in that respect, since it's all about Her Majesty's cuteness.

summing it up





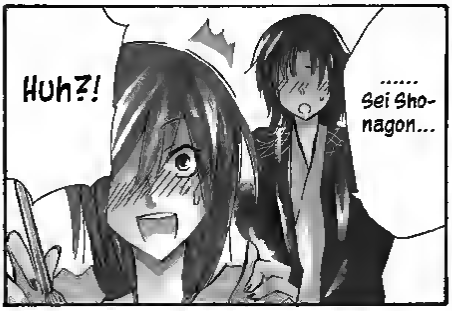
a Revelation

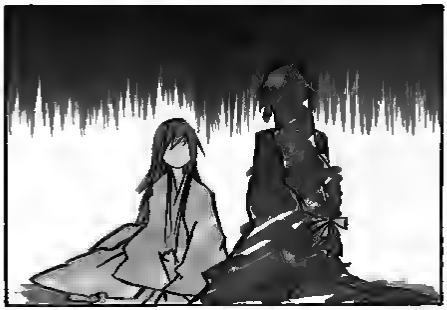

Nobody has ever spoken so seriously about my work before.
No... perhaps the people who showered me with praise were the shallow ones.

she can't be honest about her feelings
I'm sorry, I was a bit busy last night.
Argh... I did it again.
when they gazed into each other's eyes
If Kou Shikibu is awake, I'll have to apologize to her.
Augh. I stayed out all night.
No... it's just that things ...
Oh
Did something happen to Her Majesty?
I wonder what kept Shonagon out all night?
Augh. I didn't sleep a wink last night.
got more heated than I expected.
With Murasaki Shikibu...
I should check and see...
SKUP
What in the world?!
Go jump off a cliff!!
Why are you apologizing? Are you some sort of idiot?!
Wh-
I'm sorry. I'm sorry!!

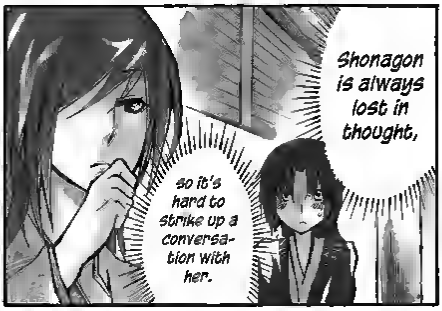
Getting off track

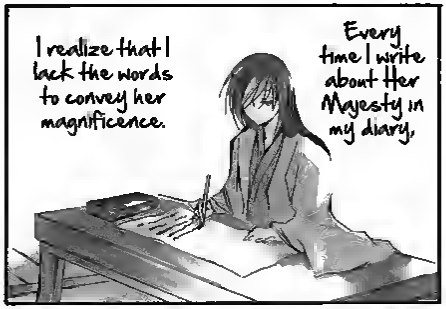
kind of true





this is no time for tweeting

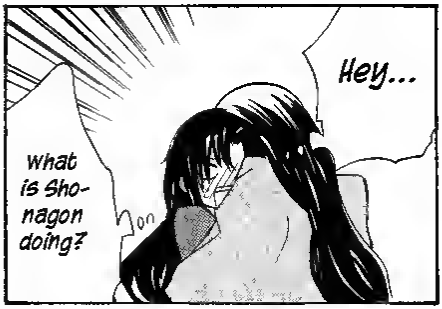


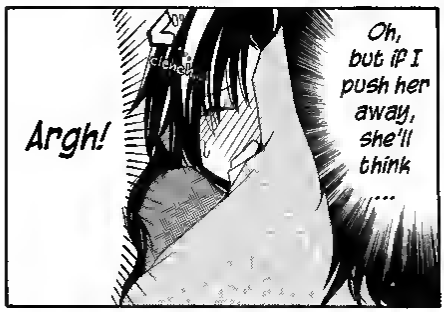


seisyounagon_
giving second-by-second updates so I won't forget anything about her.
so I'm going to write down every little detail I can,
One can only imagine what she would have been like on Twitter.

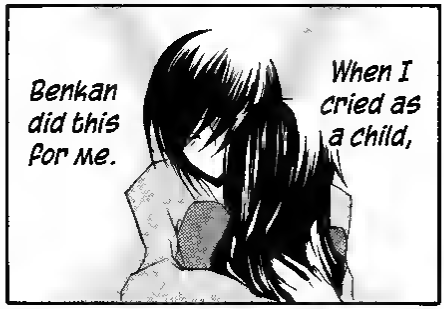
* This strip parodies *Pokemon* game battles. "I mustn't run away" is likely a reference to a well known scene from the anime *Neon Genesis Evangelion.*

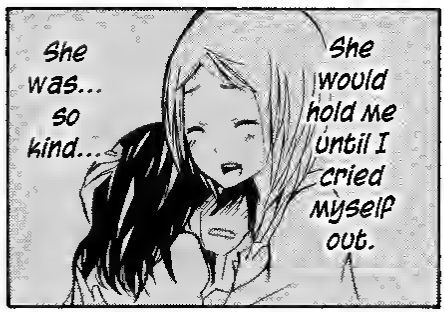
a common mistake

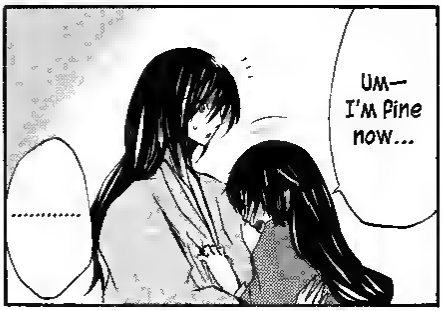


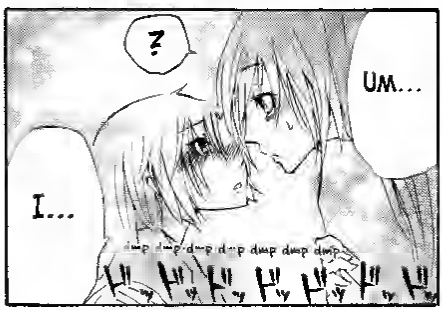


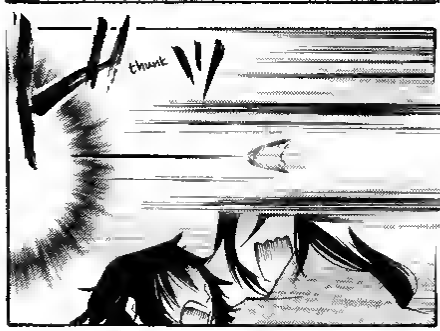
thoughts getting off track

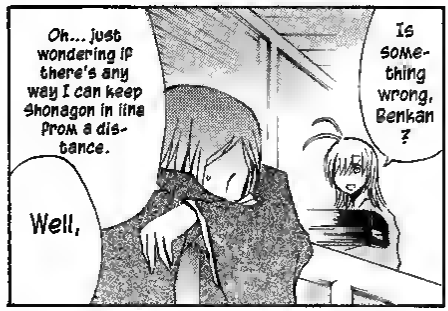


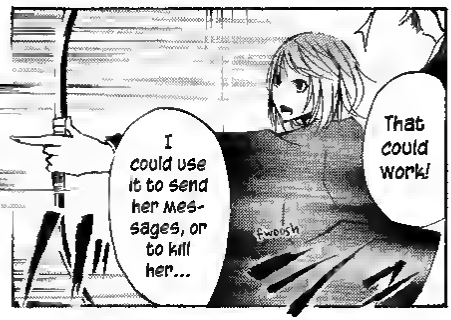






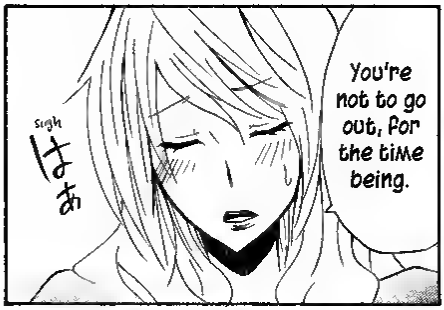


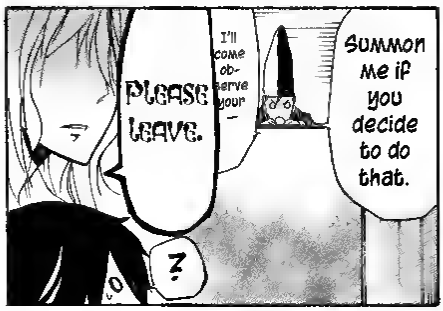




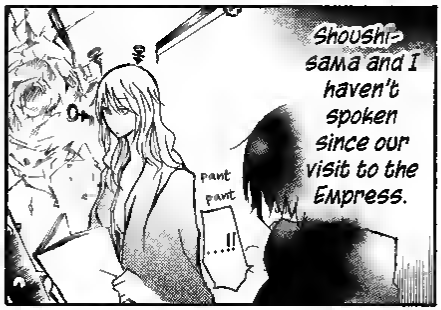
* "Tsukkomi" in Japanese. Also used in Kansai style comedy routines called "manzai" to denote the person who makes witty comebacks to stupid things said by the "boke," the other half of the comedy duo. Benkan often plays the role of "tsukkomi" in this manga.

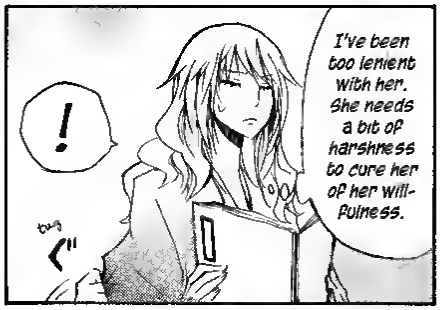
decided to have some fun

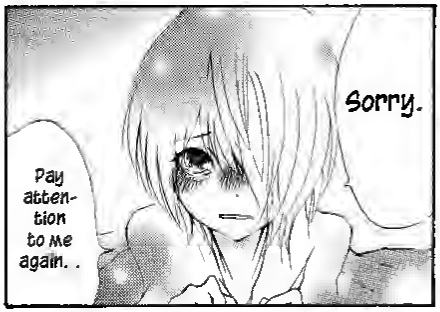




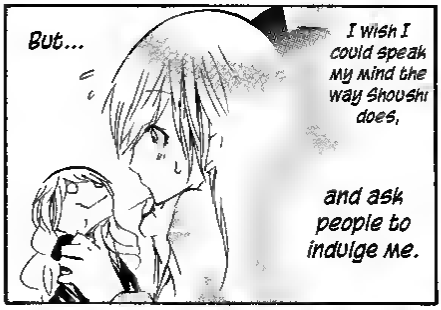
a golden opportunity wasted



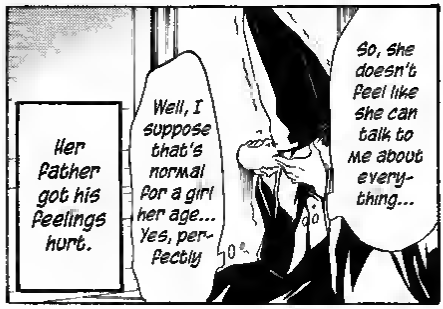




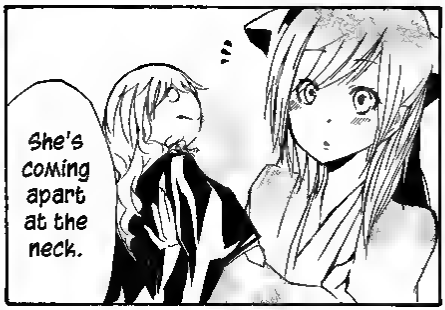
her majesty today

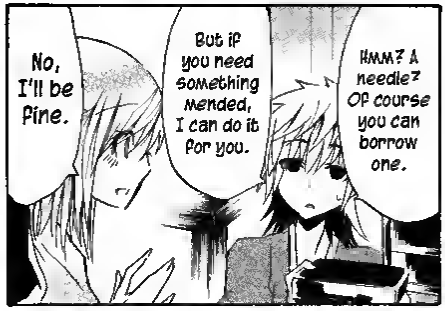


even when people say things that make me happy,
when I try to put my own feelings into words,
they feel like lies.
far more miraculous and fascinating.

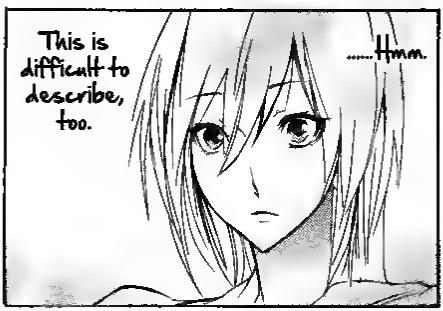

So, she doesn't feel like she can talk to me about everything...
Well, I suppose that's normal for a girl her age... Yes, perfectly
Her father got his feelings hurt.

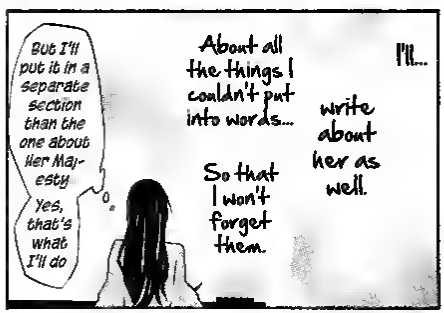
a smile and a bombshell





to be continued




But I'll put it in a separate section than the one about Her Majesty
Yes, that's what I'll do
About all the things I couldn't put into words...
So that I won't forget them.
I'll...
write about her as well.

And she embraced me today ...
Augh! I never apologized for reading her diary....
Meanwhile, Kou Shikibu was beside herself with worry all night.

aggressively showing her sweet side

Murasaki ❖ Shikibu

*She's around 24 in this manga. I threw everything I consider erotic (the color purple, eyes that droop down at the corners, big breasts, and wavy hair) into her character design.**

I've just realized that I forgot the ultimate sexy option: a beauty mark. Oh, well.

It wasn't until I started working on this series that I finally read ***The Tale of Genji*** *in enough depth to understand all of it. I'm sorry.*

The characters in it are interesting. I bet this manga would have been just as exciting if I'd based it on that instead.

Her cup size is F--outlandish, I know. Not that it matters.

Speaking of things that don't matter, my favorite song from the idol group Hikaru Genji is "Tsurugi no Mai" ("Sword Dance"). I doubt that's of any interest.

* "Murasaki" means "purple."

fujiwara ❖ no ❖ shoushi

*She's around 12 in this manga. I've deviated a lot from historical fact by making her and Teishi so close in age, but I think the way I changed her appearance was even worse.**

She has hair covering one eye because that's my preference.

I wanted her to be Teishi's polar opposite. So, much like Shonagon, she's a bit out of control.

By the way, her blood-spattered clothing and room are just for show. She's not actually that violent.

When I'm drawing strips about Shoushi, these songs always seem to come on for some reason:

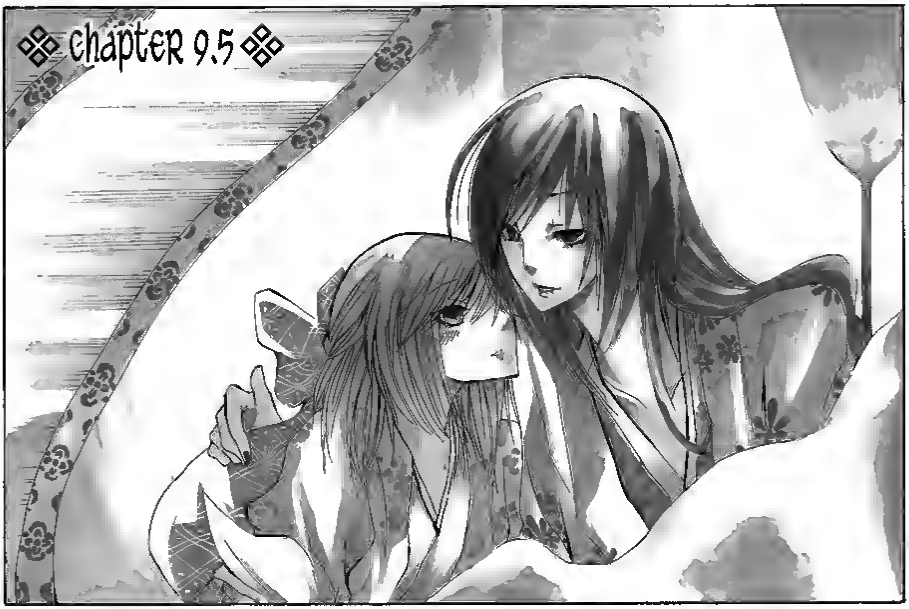
"Houchou Hasami Cutter Knife Dosu Kiri" ("Carving Knife, Scissors, Box Cutter, Knife, Dagger, Cut") by Maximum the Hormone

"Shitsuryou to Enerugii no Toukasei" ("Mass-Energy Equivalence") by Kuwata Keisuke

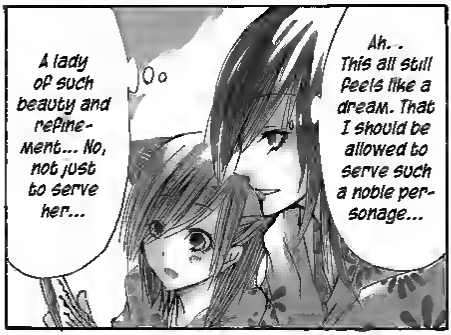
"Oshaka-shama" ("Buddha-shama") by RADWIMPS

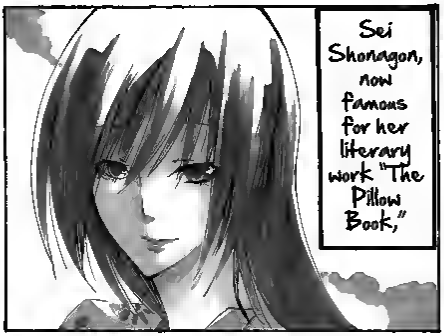
That doesn't necessarily have anything to do with the plot, but....

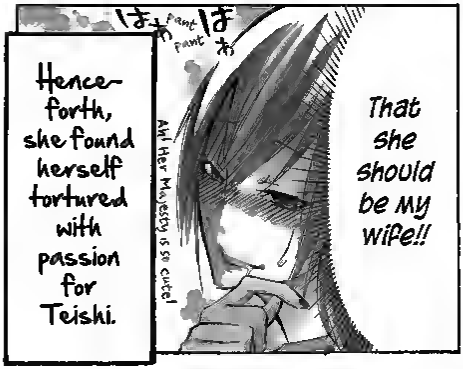
* In real life, Shoushi was over a decade younger than Teishi.

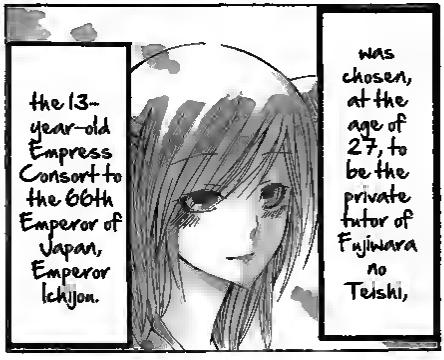


What Sei Shonagon Was Really Like

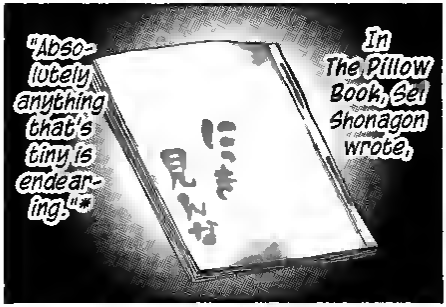

A lady of such beauty and refinement... No, not just to serve her...
Ah... This all still feels like a dream. That I should be allowed to serve such a noble personage...



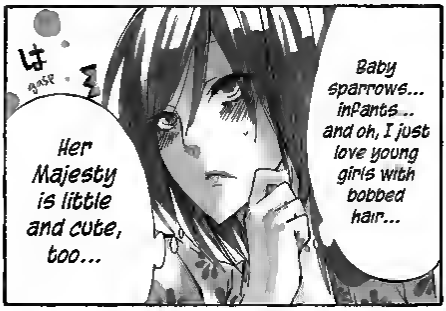

Hencefourth, she found herself tortured with passion for Teishi.
Pant Pant
Ahh! Her Majesty's so cute!
That she should be my wife!!

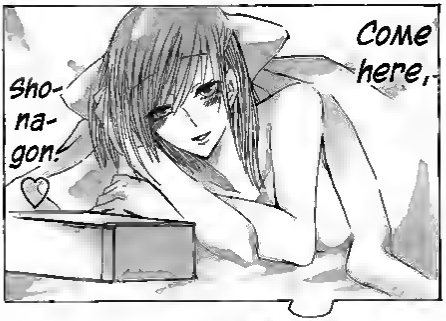

the 13-year-old Empress Consort to the 66th Emperor of Japan, Emperor Ichijon.
was chosen, at the age of 27, to be the private tutor of Fujiwara no Teishi,

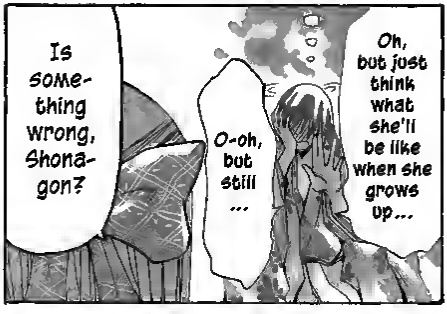
a difficult choice



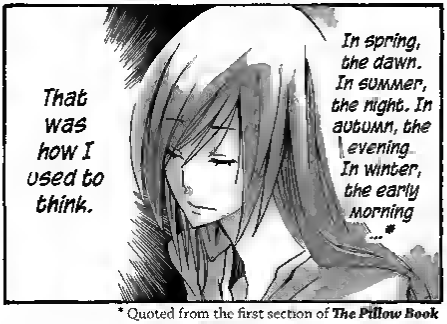
* Quoted from the 144th section of **The Pillow Book**



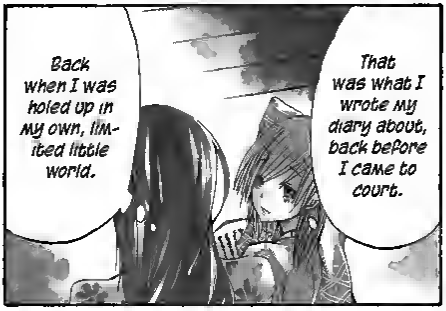


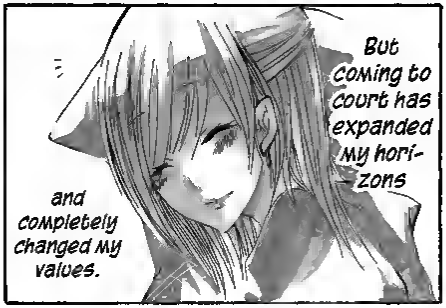


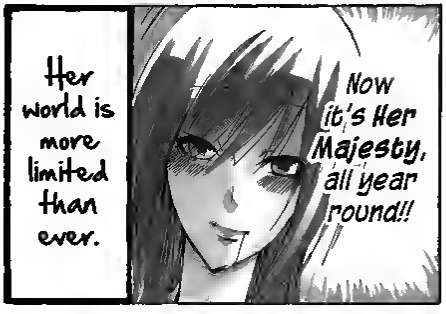
more's the pity



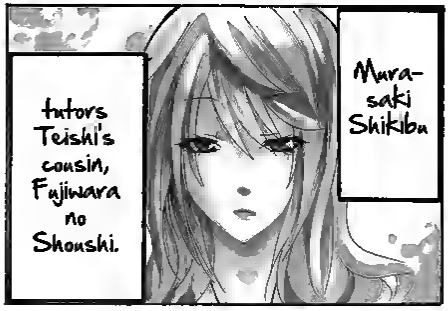
* Quoted from the first section of **The Pillow Book**

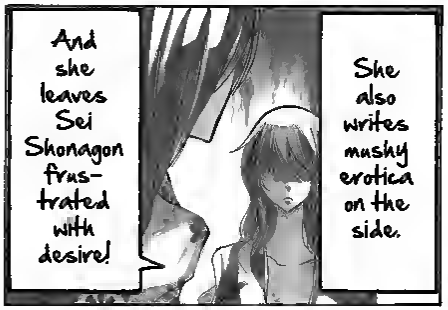






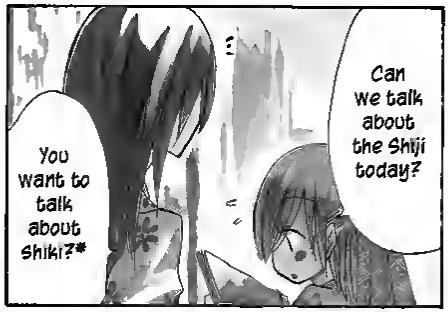
Lady Murasaki





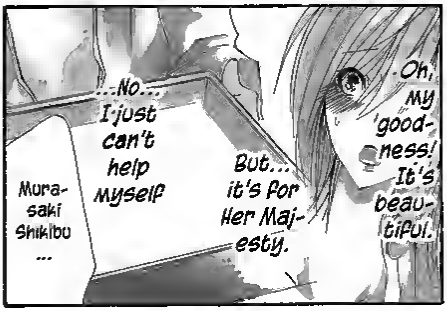
..... That Mura-saki Shikibu!
WHY DID YOU SAY MY NAME TWICE?
Thanks ever so for that introduc-tion dripping with preju-did you ever con-sider how much better off the world would be without you in it?

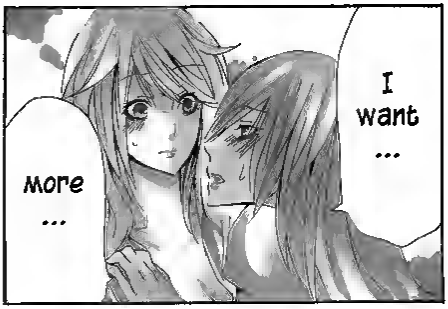
Being Silly



Shiki" is tha Japanese term for the Shiji, but it can also refer to bedding that is laid out, hence Shonagon's interpretation of it as a reference to sex/masturbation. The author may have chosen thus play on words as an homage to the story behind ***The Pillow Book*'s name: Shonagon proposed that a bundle of paper given to the Empress be a "pillow" because the Shiji was being copied at the Emperor's court (though opinions differ on whether she was making a pun or simply using "pillow" in another sense). Her Majesty then gave tha paper to Shonagon.

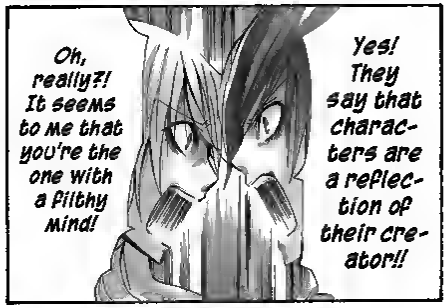
Changing her tune

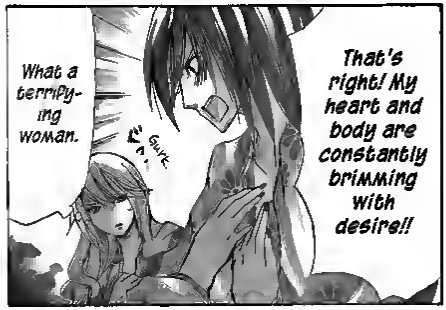




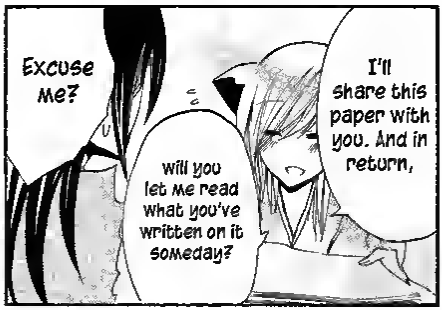
Fighting like cats and dogs

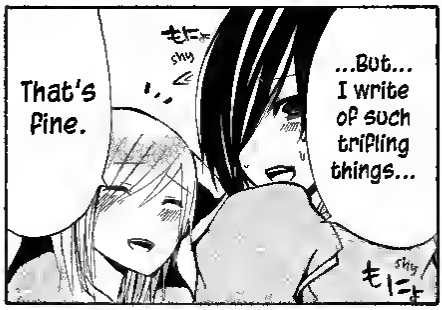
Why would you think that? Do I seem like the sort of person who would do that?
I hope you don't intend to follow your protagonist's example and commit adultery with my lady.

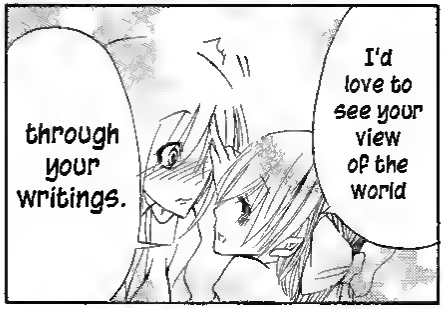

Oh, really?! It seems to me that you're the one with a filthy mind!
Yes! They say that characters are a reflection of their creator!!

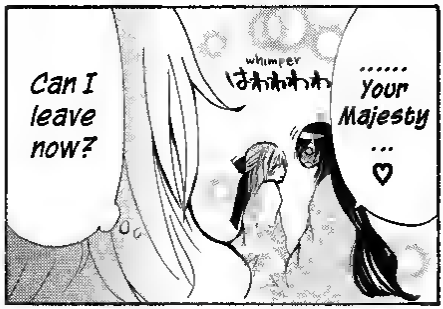


* Paper was a valued commodity at the time. In this strip and the next few that follow, the author reimagines the origin of ***The Pillow Book*** with one major change in reality—the paper was a gift from Palace Minister Korechika (Teishi's brother)—not Murasaki


Excuse me?
will you let me read what you've written on it someday?
I'll share this paper with you. And in return,


That's fine.
shy
もにゃ
...But... I write of such trifling things...
shy
もにゃ

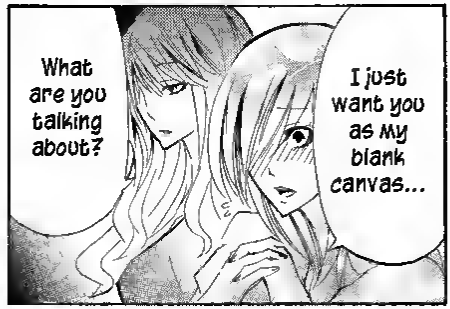

through your writings.
I'd love to see your view of the world


Can I leave now?
whimper
はぁはぁはぁ
..... Your Majesty ... ♡

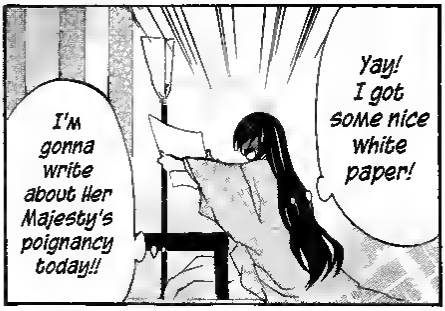
Hmm? Oh... Yes.....
Sho-nagon, would you like some paper?

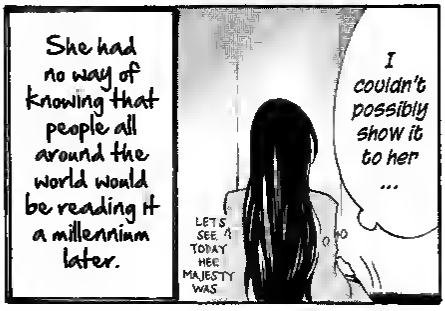
...!!
I could give you some, if you'd like?

I'm hardly worthy ... I...
No, it's far too valuable!

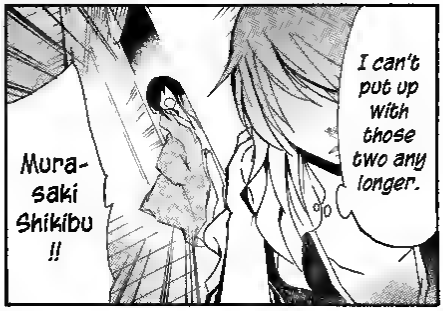

What are you talking about?
I just want you as my blank canvas...

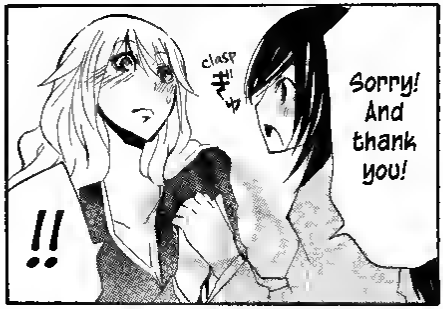
SORRY




She had no way of knowing that people all around the world would be reading it a millennium later.
LET'S SEE. TODAY HER MAJESTY WAS
I couldn't possibly show it to her ...

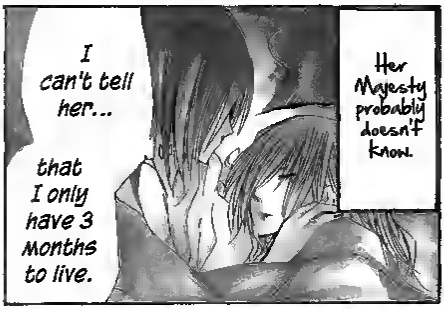
Who could blame you?

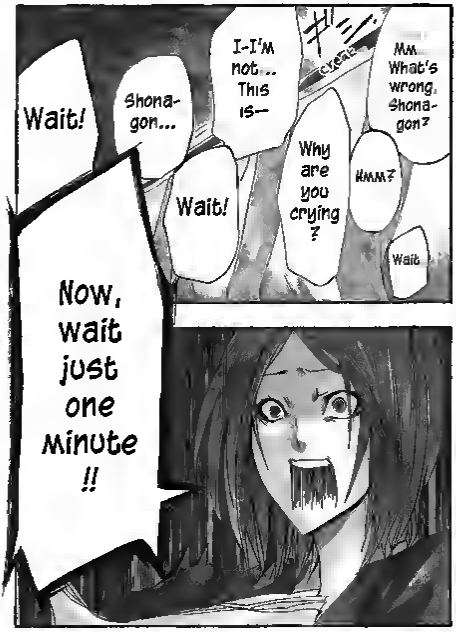




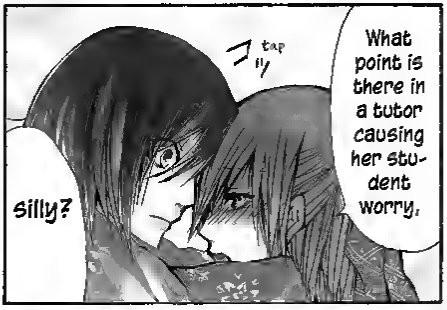
But even so, I'd like to hide it away.
is only what I've seen of her, and what I've learned of her through our conversations.
The vision of Her Majesty I'm leaving behind in my diary
After all,
cough
cough
but surely I can at least be allowed that?
I know my possessiveness is foolish,
...!!
I don't have
much time left.
So
if I have to leave her side, please let me file my memories away
so I won't leave any behind.
Chapter 10

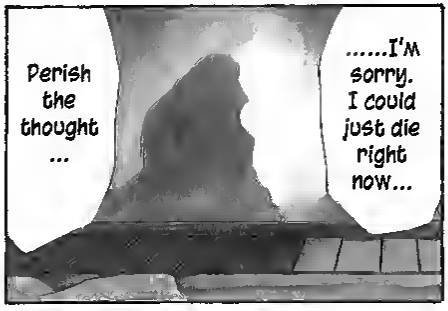
tears and a surprise





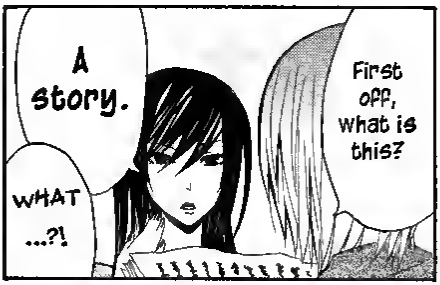
impulse

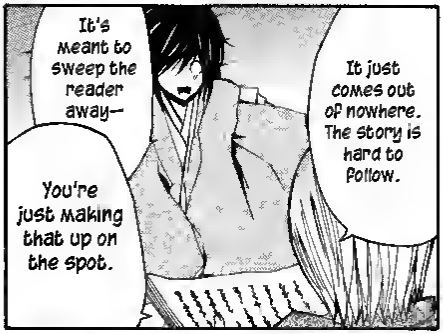


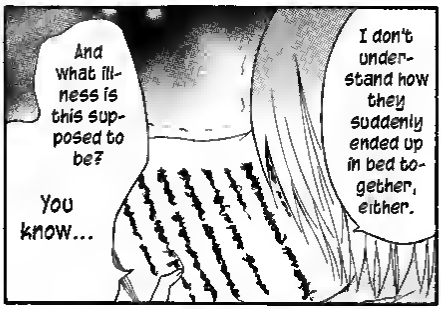


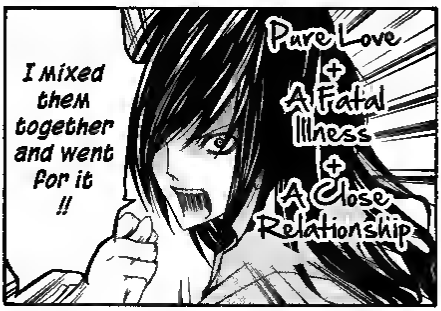
hmm...

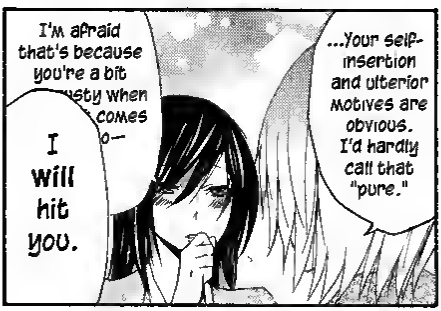
so that's what it was



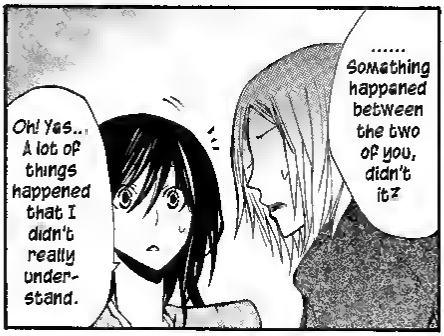

It's meant to sweep the reader away--
It just comes out of nowhere. The story is hard to follow.
You're just making that up on the spot.

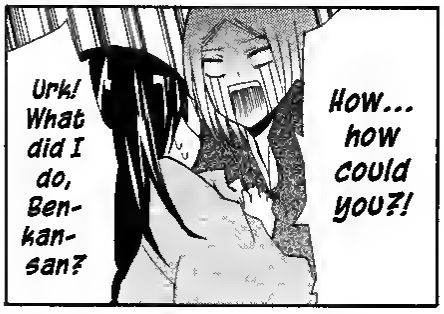




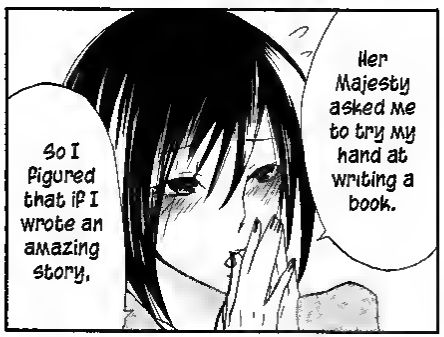

I'm afraid that's because you're a bit
I will hit you.
...Your self-insertion and ulterior motives are obvious. I'd hardly call that "pure."

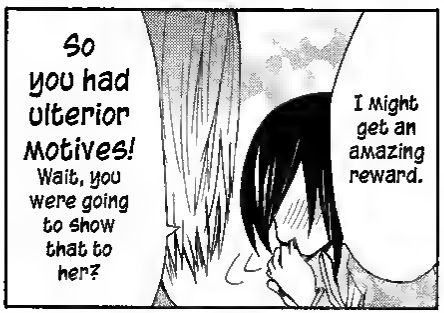
after that embrace

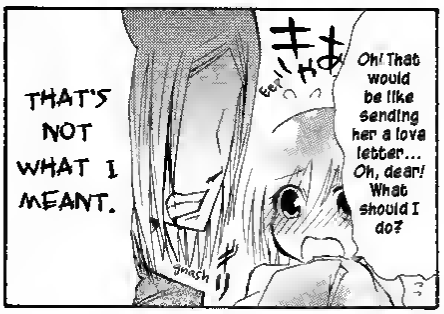




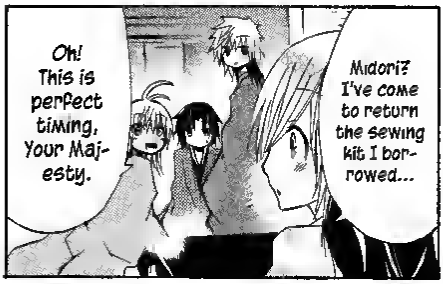
the impetus

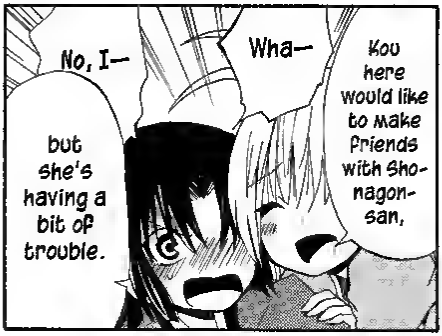




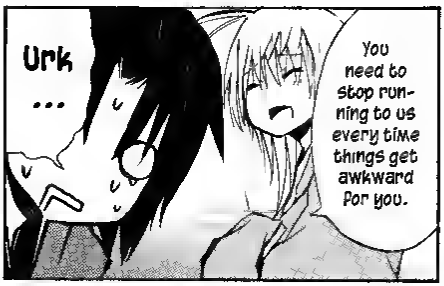


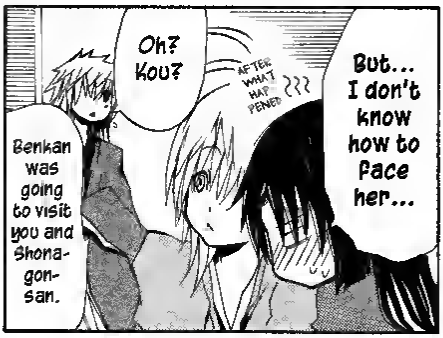
you, too, your majesty?

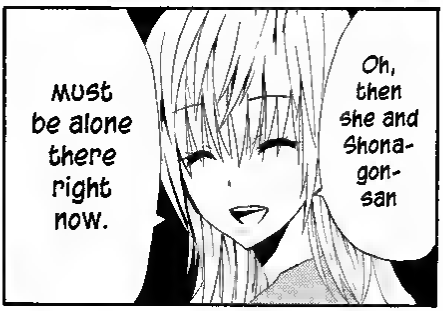




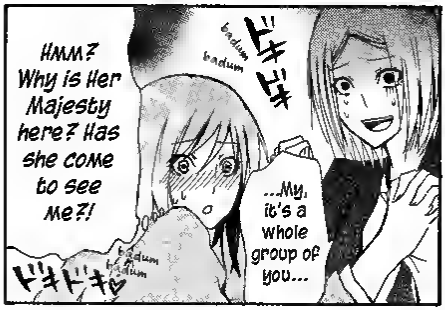
painfully obvious

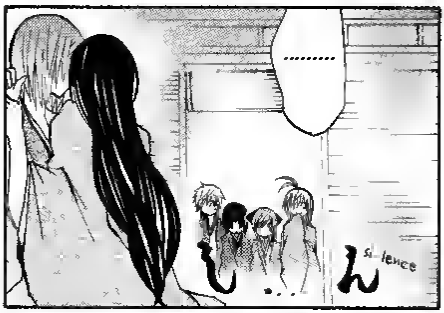






Blunt

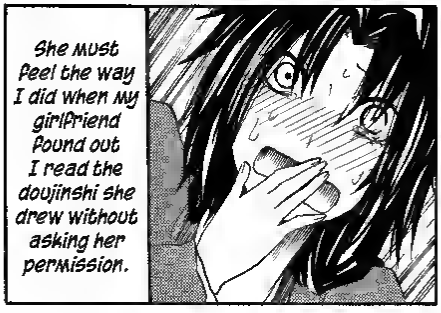




So many witnesses

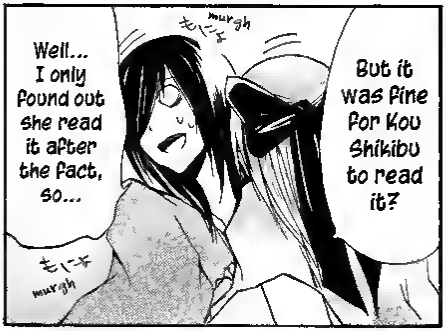
Like what you did with Murasaki Shikibu!
NOT THAT YOU WERE NORMAL TO BEGIN WITH
You've been acting strangely ever since you came to court, you know!
Huh?! What does she have to do with anything?

please try and sympathize



please try and imagine it

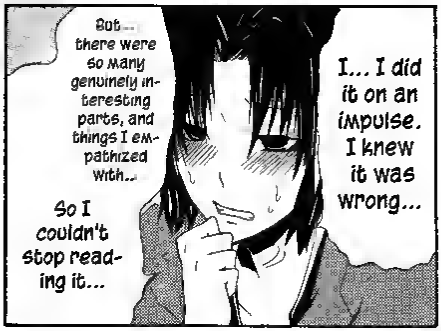
But... it wouldn't have been appropriate to show it to you!
How could you, Shonagon? You never said a word about it to me.


Well... I only found out she read it after the fact, so...
But it was fine for Kou Shikibu to read it?

Won't you get it out and show it to me?
It's not fair.

I'm sorry. I'm dying here.
...I WOULD IF I COULD... AUUGH ...

I-I'm sorry! I've been meaning to apologize...
you r-..... rea- ...
D-..... don't tell me

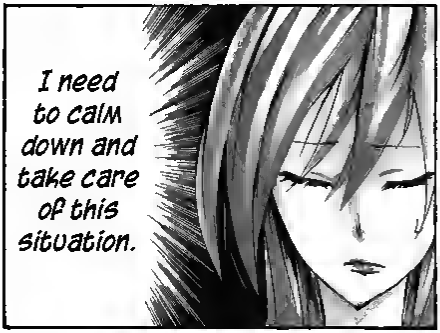

But... there were so many genuinely interesting parts, and things I empathized with...
So I couldn't stop reading it...
I... I did it on an impulse. I knew it was wrong...

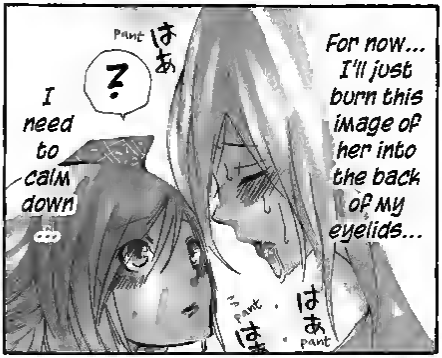
If she empathized with it, then that means she's...!
Wait a minute. She does mean my diary about Her Majesty, doesn't she?

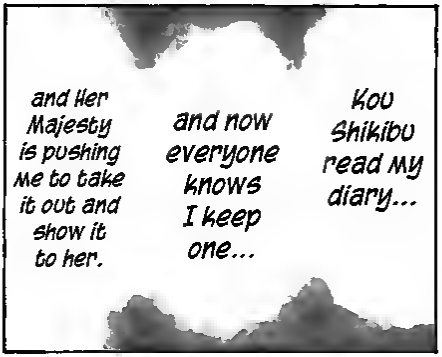
MY RIVAL?!
Sei
Kou
Tei shi

chapter 11

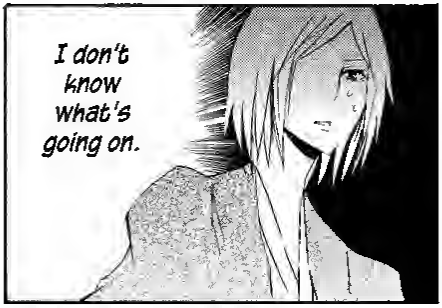
all out of sorts

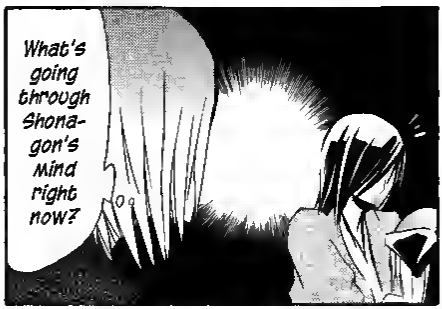


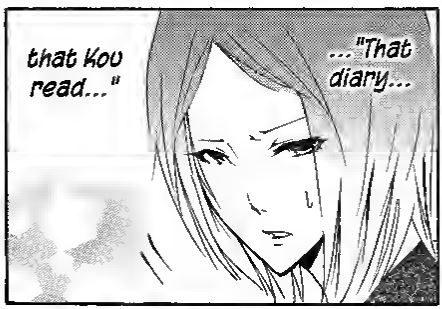


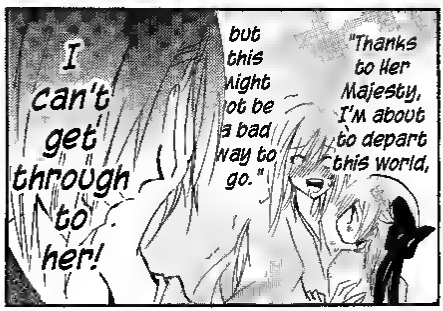


eye contact

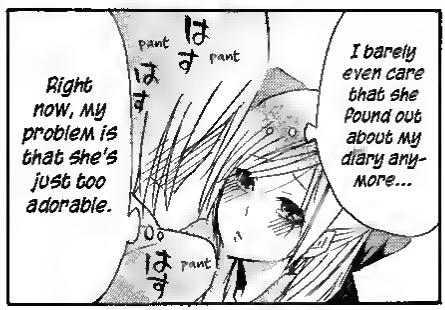




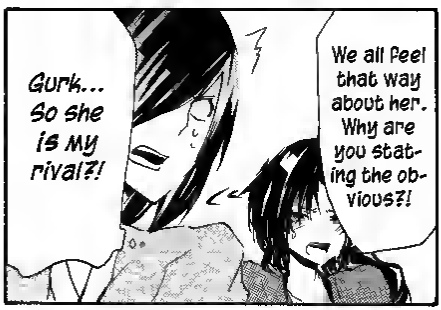




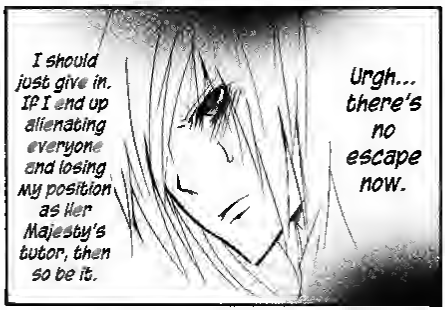
being her normal abnormal self


Right now, my problem is that she's just too adorable.
pant はす pant
はす
はす pant
I barely even care that she found out about my diary anymore...

Lying about her feelings

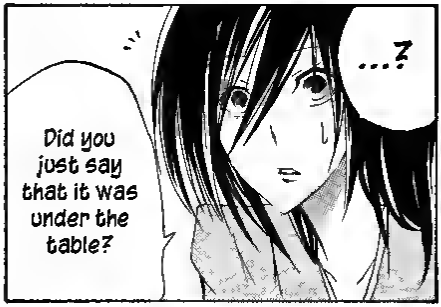


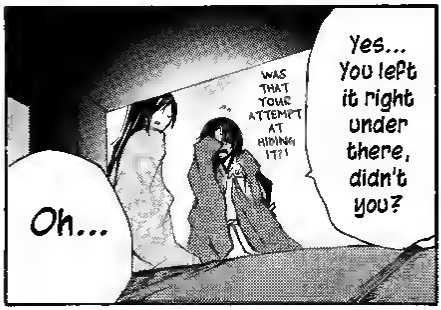
Really?

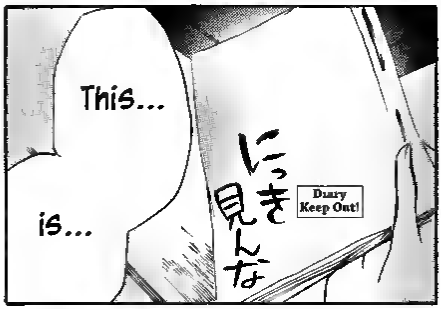

Urgh... there's no escape now.
I should just give in. If I end up alienating everyone and losing my position as Her Majesty's tutor, then so be it.

It will be all right. I just have to believe in her.
If she reads my diary and sees how deep my feelings are for her... and... happens to feel the same way...

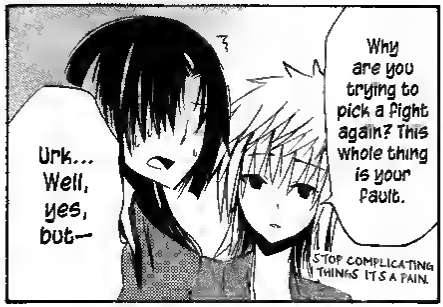
Just for show?

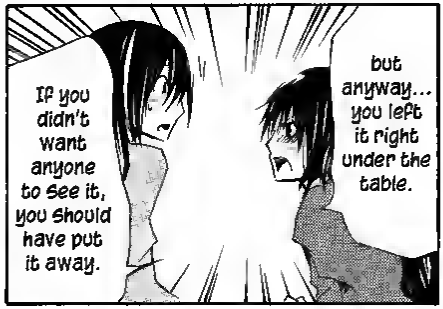




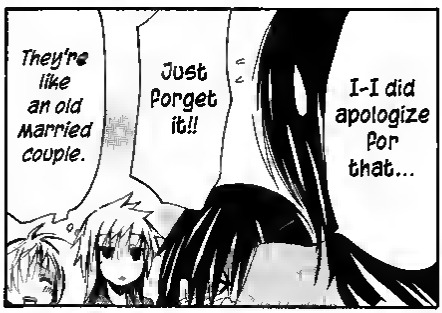


Was that deliberate?

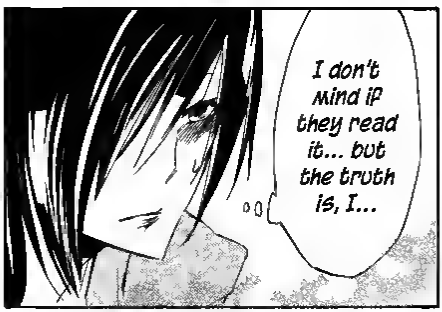

Why are you trying to pick a fight again? This whole thing is your fault.
Urk... Well, yes, but—
STOP COMPLICATING THINGS IT'S A PAIN.

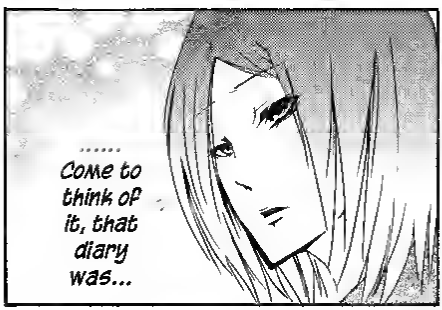


And... you never returned from Her Majesty's chamber that night!
I waited so long... but you didn't come back until the next morning!

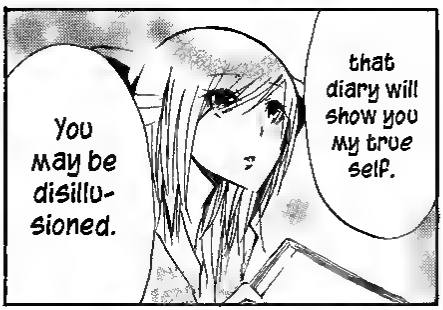


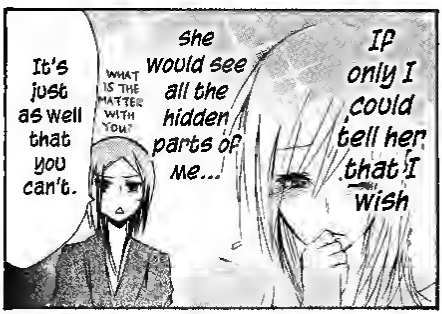
Read it without reading it





Crucial shyness




If only I could tell her that I wish
she would see all the hidden parts of me...
WHAT IS THE MATTER WITH YOU?
It's just as well that you can't.

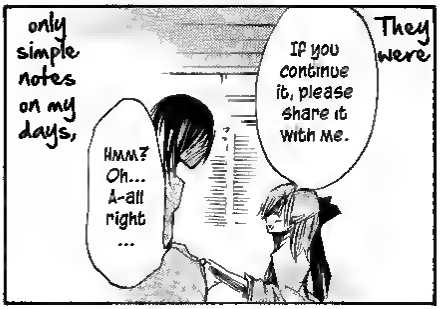
In winter, the early morning ...
In autumn, the evening.
In summer, the night.
In spring, the dawn.
When I became aware of that trifling emotion,
but I have a fondness for all of them.
We're expected to have a favorite season,
*Quoted from the first section of The Pillow Book

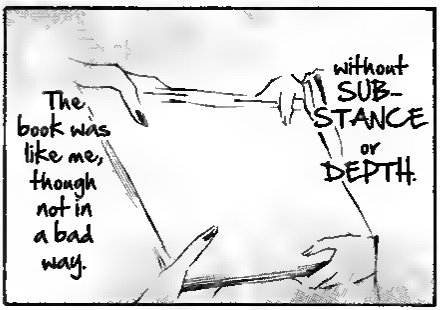
a state that I've otherwise been inclined to take for granted.
my heart swelled with the knowledge of my own existence,

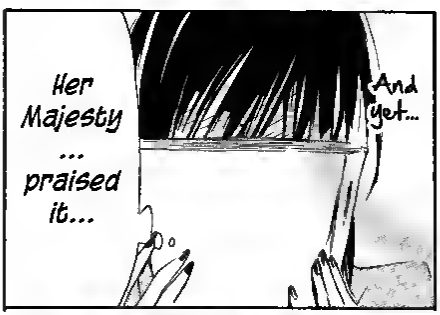
Augh! I wish I were dead. I wish I were dead. I were dead. I were dead. I were
Th-this is rough. It's torture hearing it read aloud. The embarrassment stings...
You could kill most manga artists if you did this, so please don't try it.

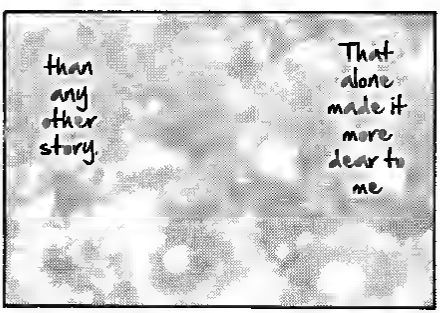
and yet ...
That is all,

a swell of emotion





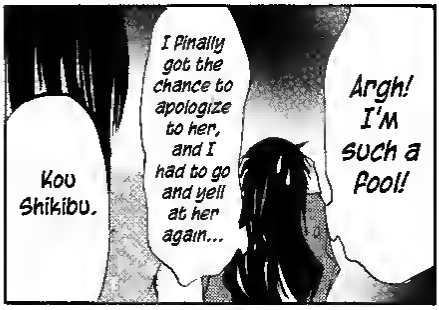


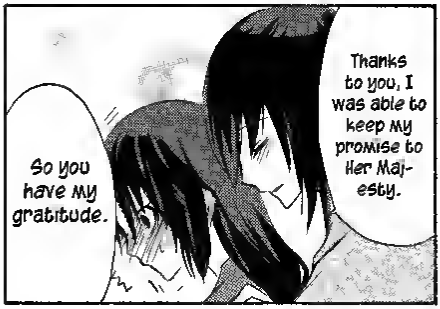


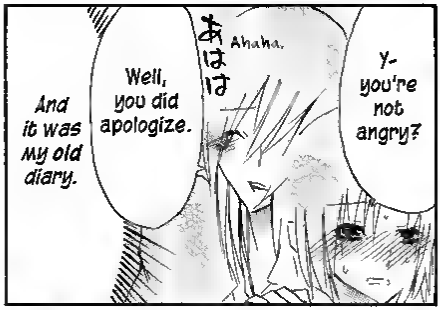
can't show her face

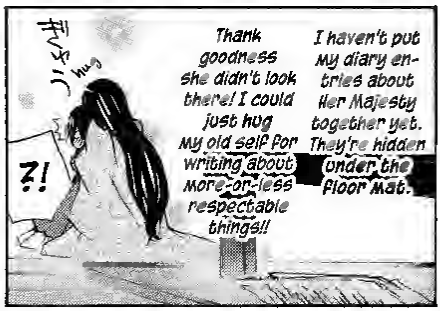
Who could be disillu-sioned with you after reading this?
And it's not limited to your appear-ance and your handwriting. You have a talent for weaving words together.
I was right about you. You are a beautiful person.

It all worked out in the end

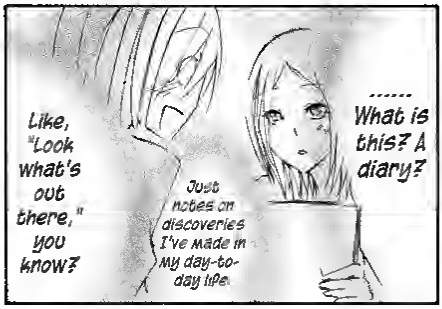


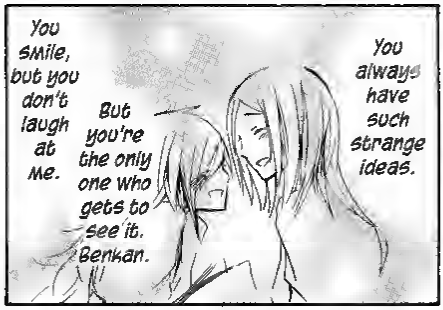


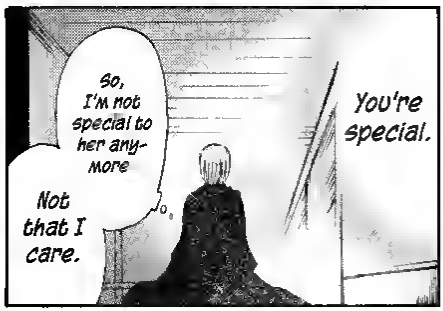



?!
ハグッ hug
Thank goodness she didn't look there! I could just hug My old self for writing about more-or-less respectable things!!
I haven't put My diary entries about Her Majesty together yet. They're hidden under the floor mat.

not bothered at all





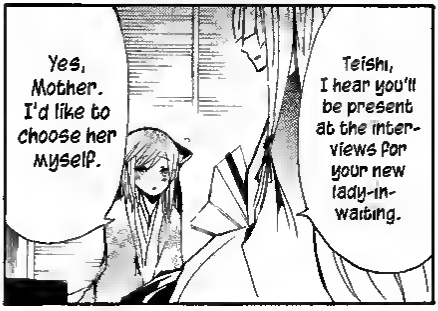


Cousin!
It's not that I was particularly dissatisfied with my life.
No!
You should behave yourself in the presence of the Empress.
I just envied her a bit.
Look! This is my new lady-in-waiting, Murasaki Shikibu.
Quite the catch, isn't she?

chapter 12

LOOKING AT THINGS FROM EMPRESS TEISHI'S PERSPECTIVE

* The title of this chapter in Japanese is "Teishi sama wo Miteru," a reference to the popular light novel series ***Maria sama ga Miteru***


Yes, Mother. I'd like to choose her myself.
Teishi, I hear you'll be present at the interviews for your new lady-in-waiting.

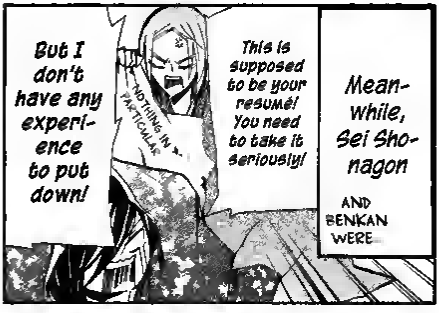
What?
You want a new lady-in-waiting?!

Handwriting reveals a person's true nature. It does not lie.
In that case, you need only view their handwriting.

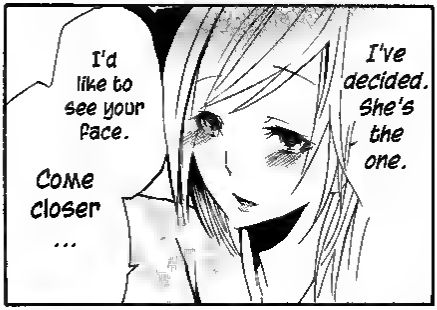
No! They're all nice. I like them. ...But...
Is there some problem with the ones you already have?!

Yes, Mother ...
It will help you find the woman you're looking for.

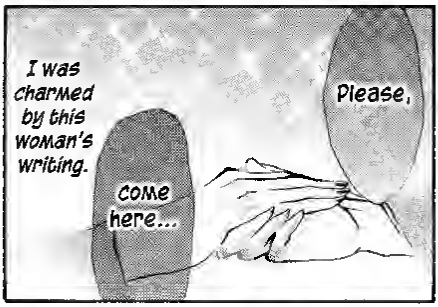
and see parts of me that no one else has...
I want someone who'll teach me things that aren't in any books

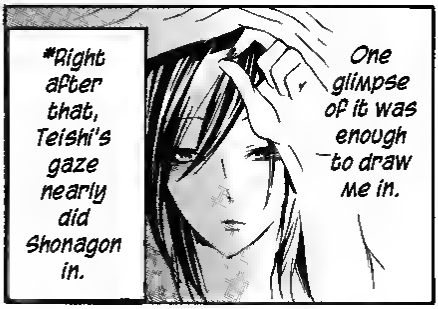

But I don't have any experience to put down!
NOTHING IN PARTICULAR
This is supposed to be your resume! You need to take it seriously!
Meanwhile, Sei Shonagon and Benkan were...

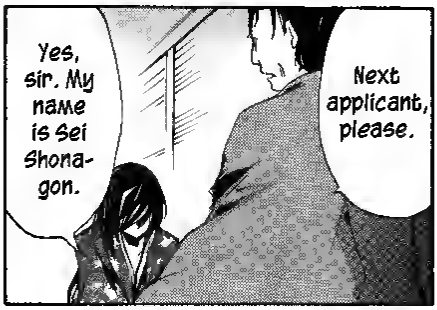
I don't understand ...
.....
.....Y-you don't mean what I think you mean, do you?


I'd like to see your face.
Come closer ...
I've decided. She's the one.

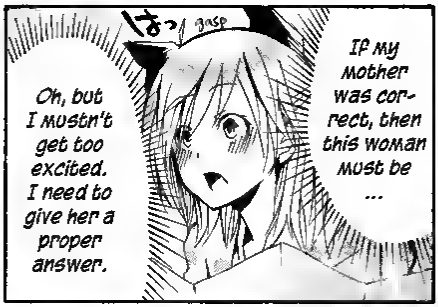
but
I don't completely trust my mother's advice,

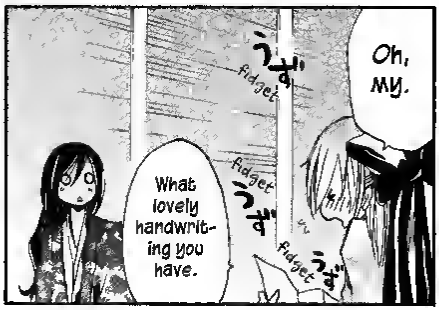

I was charmed by this woman's writing.
Please, come here...

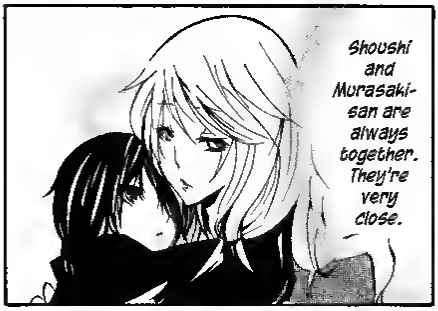

*Right after that, Teishi's gaze nearly did Shonagon in.
One glimpse of it was enough to draw me in.

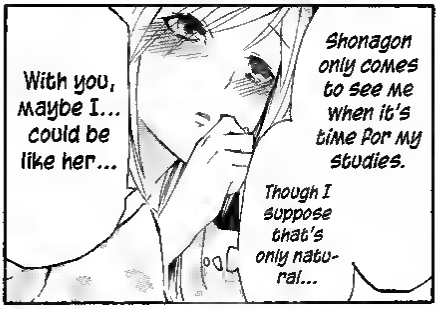

Yes, sir. My name is Sei Shonagon.
Next applicant, please.

She has the prettiest writing I've seen so far.
Sei Shonagon...


Oh, but I mustn't get too excited. I need to give her a proper answer.
gasp
If my mother was correct, then this woman must be ...

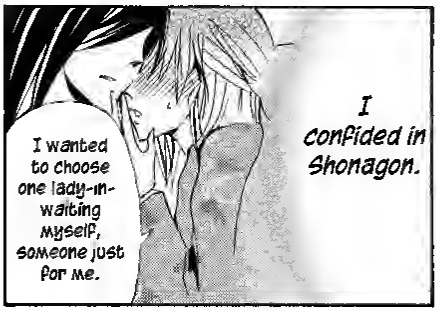

What lovely handwriting you have.
fidget
fidget
fidget
Oh, my.


Shoushi and Murasaki-san are always together. They're very close.


With you, maybe I... could be like her...
Though I suppose that's only natural...
Shonagon only comes to see me when it's time for my studies.

Yes, Your Majesty.
Shonagon, give me a hug.

N-never Mind! Forget I said anything!!
No, that's not right...
blush

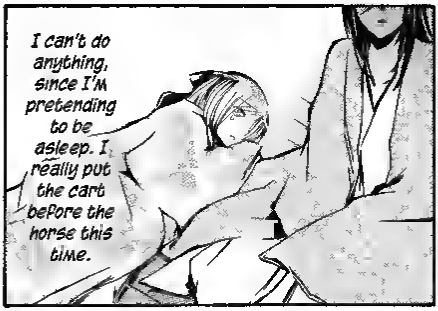

I confided in Shonagon.
I wanted to choose one lady-in-waiting myself, someone just for me.

Will she think poorly of me now? Will I seem childish?
Will you... indulge this selfishness of mine?

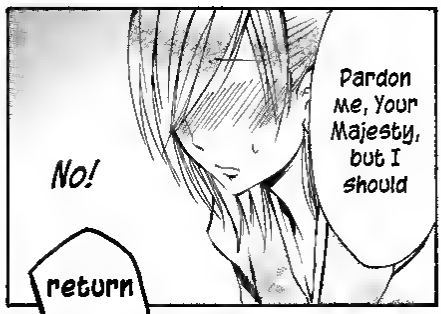
...Shonagon ..?

I couldn't be happier!!

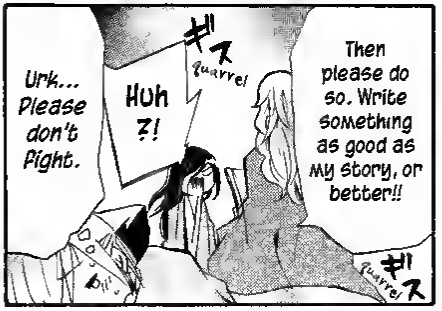
Re: one after another



Re: passion vs. reason

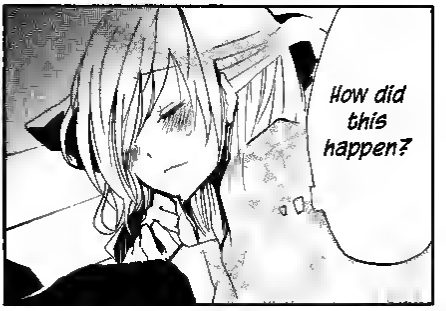


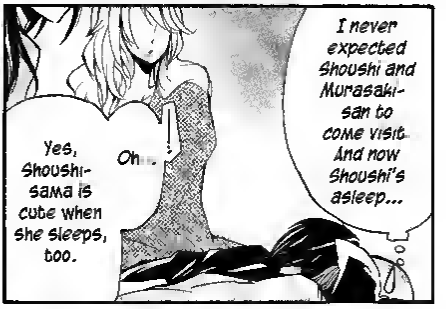
Re: a Revelation

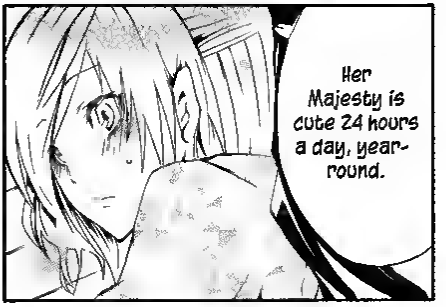


worry もん worry
Why did I decide to pretend to be asleep, anyway?
It's not fair that Murasaki-san gets to talk to her and I don't.
*Right back where she started

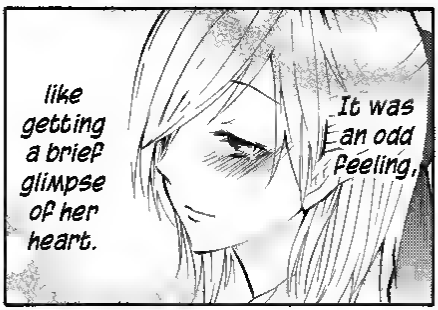
Re: Loving her 24/7

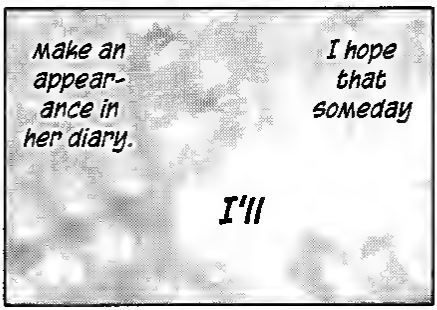


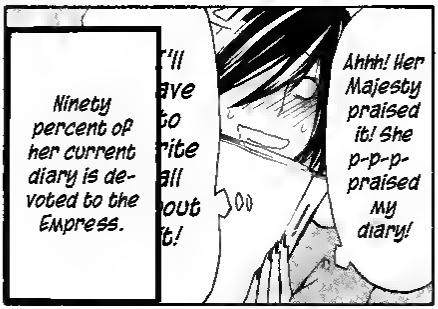

I never expected Shoushi and Murasaki-san to come visit. And now Shoushi's asleep...
Oh...
Yes, Shoushi-sama is cute when she sleeps, too.



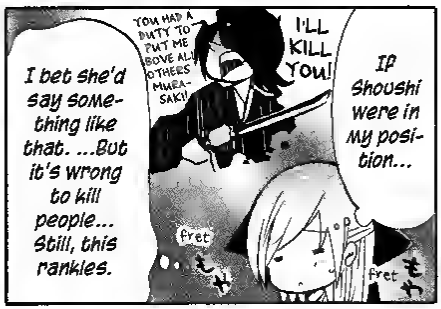
Re: a swell of emotion





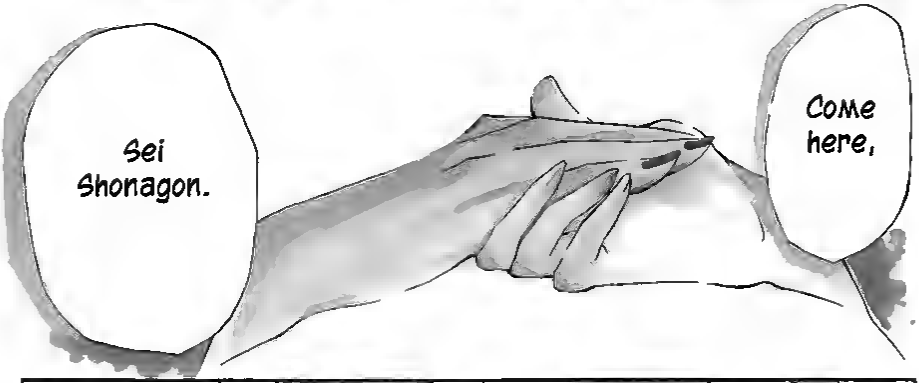


Re: not a friend


If Shoushi were in My posi-tion...
I'll KILL You!
YOU HAD A DUTY TO PUT ME ABOVE ALL TO THERE MUREA-SAKI!
I bet she'd say some-thing like that. ...But it's wrong to kill people... Still, this rankles.
fret
fret

Your Majesty,

No... but there's a picture I'd like to show you.
So please come closer.
A picture?
.....
Is something the matter?


Sei Shonagon.
Come here,

It's hard to tell whether it's ending or continuing.
.....
Our battle is not yet over, hmm?

❖ Benkan ❖

She's around 30 in this manga. Though she's been around since the very first chapter, and she's the only character in the manga with any common sense, she's never been included in any of the official character introductions. Her name even got misprinted, the poor thing!

She's basically an amalgamation of all the kind people who've looked after me over the years.

When I was reading background information on ***The Pillow Book****, the description I empathized with most was of Shonagon's feelings for Benkan. In that sense, she just might be my favorite character.*

So I wish my editors would treat her a bit better. Haha.

* Benkan is known as "Ben no Omoto" in ***The Pillow Book***, though she appears there only briefly.

Kou ❖ Shikibu

She's 17 in this manga. She gets called tsundere all the time, but lately I think maybe she's just contrary.

Perhaps I'm just compensating for not making Empress Teishi tsundere. I don't know.

I didn't plan to work her into the main plot after her appearance in chapter 3, but somehow I ended up giving her a major role anyway.

When I'm doing strips that focus on her, I have to make my mind pure or I get embarrassed and can't draw them. So I use idol tsundere songs to get through it.

If you put "Puppy Love" by Perfume and "Iiwake Maybe" ("An Excuse, Maybe") by AKB48 on repeat and listen to them over and over, maybe you can get into the same state of mind I'm in when I'm drawing Kou Shikibu strips. No guarantees, though....

* Kou's name corresponds to her hair color (red).

I used to think there was no such thing as true love...
All my life, I had no idea
But then... I met her.
My lady.
My destiny ...
My first real taste of love
was like being blasted into space at the speed of light.
A-are you sure?
Yes.
Come here...
Shonagon.

And then we...
Don't you ever learn?

Sully her? ...Hey, watch where you're pointing that—
AHHH! HELP!
DON'T SULLY HER MAJESTY WITH YOUR FANTASIES.
I WASN'T CRITICIZING IT BECAUSE I WANTED YOU TO RE-WRITE IT.
flush
Well, I decided to rewrite it based on your criticisms of the last one.

AFTERWORD

HELLO, I'M KUZUSHIRO.
HOW DO YOU DO?

I'M SORRY ABOUT ALL OF THE UGLY PARTS. I'M GOING TO DEVOTE MYSELF TO IMPROVING MY ART, SO I HOPE YOU'LL WATCH OVER ME WITH A GENTLE GAZE.

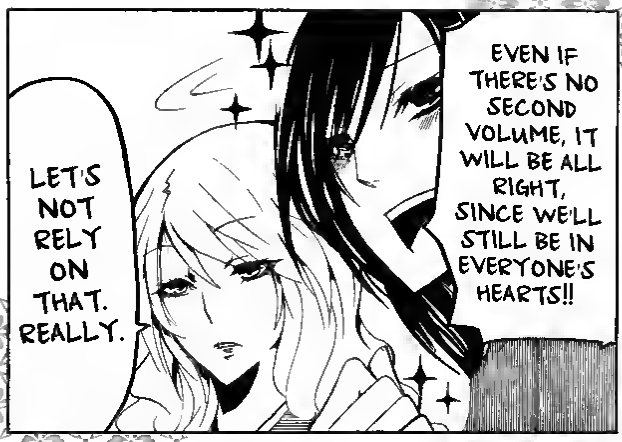
SINCE I'M WRITING ABOUT HISTORICAL FIGURES, THERE MIGHT BE SOME PARTS THAT BOTHER YOU BECAUSE THEY DEVIATE FROM HISTORICAL FACT. BUT WHAT WE KNOW OF HISTORY DOESN'T ALWAYS TURN OUT TO BE CORRECT, SO I HOPE YOU'LL KEEP AN OPEN MIND. LET'S DECIDE FOR OURSELVES WHAT'S TRUE AND WHAT ISN'T.

THIS IS JUST A SILLY MANGA ABOUT THE HEIAN PERIOD, BUT PLEASE DO CONTINUE READING IT.

◆ *Special Thanks:*
Master Arai
Kimura-san
Satou-san

◆ *Editing:*
Yano-san
Sekiguchi-san

◆ *Manga:*
Kuzushiro



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WIN Selection

kimino tamenara shineru
presented by KUZUSHIKO

TODAY'S MEAL IS GRILLED, SALTED FISH.
THIS STORY ISN'T SET IN THE PRESENT. (20XX)
I THINK THAT'S A LUCKY THING.
WHAT'S WITH THAT ALL OF A SUDDEN...
IF YOU THINK ABOUT IT, I'D BE FINE, SINCE I'M A PRIVATE TUTOR
BUT YOU'D PRETTY MUCH BE A MAID, WOULDN'T YOU!?
A MAID!!!
A MAID
NO MATTER HOW PATHETIC IT IS, BENKAN WOULD DEFINITELY BE ONE
JUST THINKING ABOUT IT MAKES ME ILL
Dizzy...
THEN DON'T THINK ABOUT IT.

AAAH...♡
GET UP, ALREADY...